



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Geography

Syllabus

Geography and Geography Education

Course Code:	GEGD10
Course Title:	Geography and Geography Education <i>Geografi med didaktisk inriktning</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
GGA (Geography)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-03-01, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements, plus Mathematics 2 and Civics 1b or Civics 1a1 + 1a2, or Mathematics B, Civics A, and English B

Learning Outcomes

Module 1: The Geographer and the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. describe how our Western world view has evolved and changed throughout history and the importance of different factors for its continuous changeability,
2. identify the overriding features of the history of ideas and methods of the history subject,
3. give an account of central geographical concepts and perspectives, and
4. give examples of how key geographical concepts can be applied in different teaching contexts.

Module 2: Describing the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of basic cartography concepts,
2. use different types of maps, and
3. give examples of how maps can be used in different teaching contexts.

Module 3: Physical Geography, Geology, Weather, and Climate, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give a general account of the formation and structure of the earth, including different types of minerals and rocks and their processes of formation,
2. give a general account of the plate tectonics processes that affect the formation and disappearance of mountain ranges and oceans, volcanism and earthquakes,
3. give a general account of the processes that cause the formation of different types of soil, sediment, and landforms,
4. describe the forces that build up or erode the surface of the earth in different temporal perspectives,
5. give a general account of the main types of weather and climate in the world, and
6. give an account of the basic parameters and processes in the atmosphere and the oceans that impact weather and climate conditions locally, regionally, and globally.

Module 4: Human Geography - Places, People, and Societies, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of basic concepts, patterns, and processes in demographic geography, social geography, and economic geography,
2. give examples of how the city can function as a living environment, and describe ongoing processes of change in different types of cities,
3. identify central aspects of how spatial planning influences individuals and communities, with a special focus on gender and diversity perspectives as well as other dimensions of sustainable development, and
4. give examples of how spatial patterns and processes can be applied in concrete ways in different teaching contexts.

Content

Module 1: The Geographer and the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module covers two main strains in the history of ideas in geography from antiquity until today. One main strain concerns geographical perspectives on ways in which people's perceptions of the world have changed over time. The other main strain problematises how geography as a discipline has been developed and applied in modern times. The content and function of the geography subject as it changes over time are related to political, economic, and social factors, including changing perspectives on gender and diversity. The module also introduces how geographical concepts such as place, space, border, and scale can be applied in teaching in compulsory school, from different geographical perspectives.

Module 2: Describing the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module introduces students to different perspectives on using maps as teaching resources in their future professional practice. The module also offers knowledge on how to handle geographical data using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and global navigation systems such as GPS. Students learn how to use geographical data available on the Internet in the form of for instance digital maps, Google Earth, and satellite images.

Module 3: Physical Geography, Geology, Weather, and Climate, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module treats basic knowledge of the formation and structure of the earth as well as plate tectonics processes that affect the formation and disappearance of mountains and oceans. Natural disasters such as volcanism and earthquakes are treated, as well as the processes of formation and erosion that constantly change the surface of the earth. The formation of sediment, soil, and other landforms is covered, as well as the basic parameters and processes in the atmosphere and the oceans that

determine weather and climate, alongside the most common main types of weather and climate.

Module 4: Human Geography - Places, People, and Societies, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module covers basic perspectives on how sociocultural, economic, and political forces impact living conditions and spatial structures in different societies in the world, on the basis of human geography. This includes the organization of production and consumption, the location and use of resources, and how the global geographical division of labour shapes trade, investments, and dependencies. These perspectives are related to sustainability issues. The module also treats the distribution of populations both nationally and globally and factors which have an impact on changes in that distribution, with a special focus on urban processes of change and how different spatial construction ideals influence people's lives over time, especially in terms of gender and diversity aspects.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1 The Geographer and the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

Learning outcomes 1, 2, and 3 are assessed on the basis of three individual written hand-in assignments. Learning outcome 4 is assessed on the basis of participation in an excursion, an individual written hand-in assignment discussed in a seminar, and peer review of the work of another student. Students who fail to participate in the excursion for an acceptable reason may be allowed to complete another individual assignment.

Module 2: Describing the World, 7.5 ECTS cr

All learning outcomes are assessed on the basis of individual written hand-in assignments.

Module 3: Physical Geography, Geology, Weather, and Climate, 7.5 ECTS cr

All learning outcomes are assessed on the basis of a written exam.

Module 4: Human Geography - Places, People, and Societies, 7.5 ECTS cr

Learning outcome 1 is assessed on the basis of an individual written take-home exam. Learning outcomes 2, 3, and 4 are assessed on the basis of an individual written hand-in assignment.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G) or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

In order to receive the grade Distinction (VG) for the entire course, students must be awarded this grade for at least three modules.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Students must meet the cost of excursion participation.

