



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Human Geography

Syllabus

Geographies of Transformation - an Introduction

Course Code:	KGA100
Course Title:	Geographies of Transformation - an Introduction <i>Omvandlingens geografier - en introduktion</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
KGA (Human Geography)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2026-02-17, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

A bachelor-level degree of at least 180 credits, including a minimum of 90 credits with progressive specialisation in the main field of Human Geography or equivalent. In addition, upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2. An equivalence assessment can be made.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. identify and describe the central processes that shape, transform, and sustain societies over time and in different places,
2. apply theories of spatial transformation to interpret and explain both continuity and change in specific case studies, and
3. analyse and compare major societal transformation processes, and demonstrate how these are expressed in geographical and spatial structures.

Content

The course focuses on the processes through which societies are reshaped and sustained across time and space. Central to the course is an understanding of structural societal transformations - economic, political and cultural - and how these are manifested spatially. Theories of spatial transformation provide tools for critical analysis of continuity and change, while theories of growth, stagnation, and decline enable a problematisation of the driving forces, limitations and alternative future directions that shape societal development. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding how global flows are translated, negotiated and anchored in concrete contexts.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

All learning outcomes are assessed individually through participation in seminars and through individual written assignments.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

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

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.