



Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Human Geography

Syllabus

The Forest Finns and Finnskogen: Culture, History and Future

Course Code: KGGA71

Course Title: The Forest Finns and Finnskogen: Culture, History and Future
Skogsfinnarna och Finnskogen: Kultur, historia och framtid

Credits: 7.5

Degree Level: Undergraduate level

Progressive Specialisation: First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:

KGA (Human Geography)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science 2015-02-12, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2015 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements

Learning Outcomes

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

1. give an account of the reasons for the migration of the forest Finns and the conditions for colonisation in Scandinavia,
2. give an account of central aspects of the forest Finns' culture and how changes in culture, society and landscape have affect Finnskogen and its population over time,
3. evaluate different source material and perspectives that are relevant to research on Finnskogen and the forest Finns, and
4. identify and discuss different issues of the future and conditions for local development on the basis of the legacy of the forest Finns and Finnskogen.

Content

The course centres on the prominent features of the forest Finns' culture and history with an emphasis on the conditions in Finnskogen in Solör Värmland, historically, presently and in the future. Industry, settlement, community organisation, language and world views are treated in relation to the forest Finns as an ethnic group. Their colonisation process in mid-Scandinavia is treated and placed in a historical context. The interaction and assimilation processes between Finnish and Swedish settlements are also studied. An important part of the course is multi-day field trip with studies of Finnskogen's landscape and cultural environment. The different sources available for research are discussed critically. The perspective on Finnskogen's present and future situation is treated with a focus on the cultural legacy and the role of culture in local development processes. A

multi-disciplinary approach is emphasised in teaching and research.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, a multi-day field trip to Finnskogen and seminars. Blended learning may be used for certain components. Participation then requires access to appropriately equipped computer, including web camera.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment of learning outcomes 1-2 and 4 is based on two individual hand-in assignments, the latter of which is presented and discussed at a mandatory seminar. Learning outcome 3 is assessed on the basis of a mandatory multi-day field trip requiring active participation and completed assignments.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) 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's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

A fee will be charged for some expenses in connection with the field trip.