



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Human Geography

Syllabus

Human Geography III

Course Code:	KGGC02
Course Title:	Human Geography III <i>Kulturgeografi III</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree proj. for B.A./B.Sc. (G2E)

Major Field of Study:
KGA (Human Geography)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2017-09-06, and is valid from the Spring semester 2018 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Courses in human geography, spatial and social planning, tourism or geography with an emphasis on human geography, totalling 60 ECTS cr or equivalent and a project/essay at basic level (G1F) 7.5 ECTS cr.

Learning Outcomes

Module 1 Human Geography Theory, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of, explain and discuss central theories in human geography,
- explain and discuss key concepts in human geography,
- identify and critically review research problems in human geography,
- critically review human geography studies, and
- formulate relevant and delimited research questions in human geography on the basis of current research in the field.

Module 2 Human Geography Methods, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of and reflect on research methodology and methods in human geography,
- discuss and assess different research theoretical approaches in the human geography field,
- give arguments for and assess different methodological choices in human geography studies,
- argue for the theoretical, methodological and empirical perspectives in a human geography study, and
- design a research plan for a human geography study.

Module 3 Thesis/independent project, 15 ECTS cr

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

- demonstrate the ability to plan, complete and report studies in human geography,
- seek, compile and critically review relevant theoretical theories and previous research,
- demonstrate deeper knowledge in a human geography research field,
- apply and reflect on relevant methods for the independent project,
- consider and assess ethical aspects of human geography methods in the implementation of their own studies, and
- critically review other studies.

Content

The course comprises three modules of which the first two prepare for the thesis/independent project in module 3.

Module 1 Human Geography Theory, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module enhances central human geography theories and key concepts. Current research and theory development in traditional and contemporary Swedish and international contexts are discussed. Students prepare for the independent project through developing skills in writing techniques and literature searches, and through formulating and discussing their own and others' project problems.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, seminars and workshop. Attendance at seminars and workshops is mandatory.

Module 2 Human Geography Methods, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module provides specialisation in a human geography methodology and methods, practically and theoretically. Students design, apply and evaluate a research design and methodological and research theoretical approaches.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops and possible excursions. Attendance at seminars and workshops is mandatory.

Module 3 Thesis/independent project, 15 ECTS cr

Students plan, conduct and present a study in human geography. The emphasis is on previously acquired knowledge and skills and the capacity to assimilate current theories and critically review current research in human geography. The work is presented in the form of an essay and discussed at a seminar. Students choose to work individually or in pairs.

Instruction is in the form of seminars and supervision, individually and in groups. The module is concluded with a seminar where students present their essays and act as peer reviewers. The seminars are mandatory.

Supervision is provided for the course duration, Reregistered students are offered supervision only if circumstances permit.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Modules 1 and 2 are assessed on the basis of individual or pair hand-in assignments and active participation in mandatory seminars and workshops.

Module 3 is assessed on the basis of a submitted thesis/independent work, presented and discussed in mandatory seminar and performance as a peer reviewer.

The number of assessment opportunities for module 3 is limited to five.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G) or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course and modules. The grade of Distinction for the course is awarded to students who have earned this grade for at least 15 of the 30 course credits.

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.

Elective course for the social and spatial planning programme SGSAM.