



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Environmental Science

Syllabus

Environmental Impact Assessment

Course Code:	MVGT01
Course Title:	Environmental Impact Assessment <i>MKB, miljökonsekvensbeskrivning</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:

MEI (Environmental and Energy Systems)
MXA (Environmental Science)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2016-03-07, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2016 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements

Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is that students develop knowledge and skills in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and a critical approach to it. The focus is on the EIA process, its procedures and methods.

The concept EIA refers to environmental impact assessment of independent projects as well as of plans and programmes.

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

- explain the purpose of EIA and its usefulness for environmental politics,
- describe the Swedish and European legislation regulating the use of EIA,
- describe the components in the EIA process and discuss the problems and possibilities of the various methods used in different components,
- discuss problems and possibilities related to the roles of different actors in the EIA process,
- perform analysis, synthesis or evaluation related to a problem linked to EIA.

Content

The course comprises the following components:

- presentation of the purpose and role of EIA in environmental politics,
- presentation of Swedish and European legislation regulating the use of EIA,
- presentation and problematisation of the components in the EIA-process (screening, scoping, managing alternatives, investigating consequences and mitigating measures, over-all assessment),
- presentation of the participatory aspect of the EIA-process,

- a specialisation assignment in an area chosen by the student in consultation with the supervisor. The topic of the assignment must be related to the content described above.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

All assessment is individual and each component is examined separately. All components must be completed successfully. Assessment is based on three written hand-in assignments and a written report on the specialisation task. The specialisation task is also presented orally. Grades are awarded for all the four assignments and the final course grade is awarded on the basis of the weight (in terms of expected workload) of the components in the course. The hand-in assignments have the weight factor of 1.5 and the specialisation task factor 3.

Grades

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

This course is offered as distance education without mandatory meetings.