



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Political Science

Syllabus

Environmental Politics

Course Code:	SVAM02
Course Title:	Environmental Politics <i>Miljöpolitik</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:
SKA (Political Science)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-02-12, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits at the undergraduate level with a major in Political Science. Upper secondary level Swedish 3/B or upper secondary level Swedish as a second language 3/B, and upper secondary level English 6/A, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

- explain and reflect critically upon central concepts in the field of environmental politics,
- give an account of central aspects of the handling of environmental policy problems and challenges in society,
- problematise environmental policy phenomena in terms of concepts and theories used in political science, and

- perform a policy analysis on the basis of concepts and theories used in political science and environmental politics.

Content

The course introduces and provides in-depth study of environmental politics and the problems and opportunities that it and its institutions entail in relation to the handling of environmental threats, as well as basic political science concepts relevant for environmental politics. Theoretical and empirical perspectives on environmental politics are included. The local, national, and international dimensions of environmental problems and environmental work are examined and related to the function of the political system. The course also covers various ideological and institutional obstacles to the implementation of environmental policy change.

The course concludes with a methodology component. Students perform a policy analysis of an environmental issue, write a report, and present it orally in an examination seminar.

Instruction is in the form of lectures and mandatory seminars, some of which are chaired by the students. All seminars are part of the examination. In the seminars, students are expected to be able to contribute competent analytical comments to discussions, and chair one such discussion.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on individual written assignments, an oral presentation, and seminars.

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 and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.