

Faculty common course 2021

English course title: Climate Change leadership: Actors and strategies for societal transitions

Swedish course title: Klimatledarskap: Aktörer och strategier för samhällsomställning

Extent (credits): 5

Language of instruction: English

Recommended prerequisites: None

Learning outcomes of the course:

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- * Critically discuss current issues and research within environmental and Climate Change research in relation to policy and societal change;
- *Analyze the roles of various actors in relation to societal change.
- *Assess the strategies and reasoning of the actors involved in pushing for or resisting a societal transition with special consideration to social equity, and justice.
- *Critically assess and evaluate underlying assumptions and valorization in the central theories, concepts and practises of their own research fields in relation to the need for a transition that take social equity and justice into account.
- *Relate relevant methods during applied work within the fields of environmental and climate change research;
- *Demonstrate an understanding of approaches and methods for working in practice with societal actors outside the university context;

Specify which learning outcomes of the doctoral degree that are address/covered (see appendix 1 of the call or the template of ISP). Describe how:

The course tie into several of the learning outcomes for a doctoral degree:

(Goal 2) The course enables students to familiarise themselves with different conceptualisations and methods of analysing, understanding and activating actors in climate change related transitions. This make them familiar with different research disciplines and thus the methodologies used in them. This is in turn help the students understand how their own research methods compare to other methodologies.

(Goal 3 and 9) The interdisciplinary group of students as well as the interdisciplinary content of the course help the students in their ability to connect the dots between different research fields. This is important in building a capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis and for being able to present and debate their own research in relation to policy and civil society. The course will provide new insights and encourage critical investigation of assumptions made in the students' own disciplines which will help them in building their capacity to review and assess new complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically. It will also help them assess their own research from an ethical perspective.

(Goal 4) The broad range of participants and the interdisciplinary setting will help build an ability to identify new issues within their own field as well as adjacent fields in an autonomous and critical way.

(Goal 8) The course will enable students to engage, to debate and to take initiative in transitions towards sustainable development, weighing in social equity and justice. This tie into the goal of having a capacity to contribute to social development.

Course contents: This course is the second PhD course in a series of freestanding Climate Change Leadership (CCL) courses with different thematic focus. The first course "Climate Change Leadership: Power, politics and structures" was given in September 2019 with faculty funding. The series of courses draws upon the unique strengths of the Climate Change Leadership node at the research programme in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development (NRHU) at the Department of Earth Sciences, including the Zennström visiting professors, as well as the Uppsala University Sustainability Initiative's (UUSI) Climate Change Leadership platform. The main focus of the previous CCL course was on analysing how theories and concepts of climate change leadership, stemming from political and social sciences, systems thinking, governance theory and societal planning can be used to understand and shape transitions. The new course keeps some basic themes, while adding new elements.

The aim of this proposed course "Climate Change leadership: actors and strategies for change" is to explore the role of various actors in climate change, and to understand the complex dynamics of social change as well as how a just and sustainable transition could be enabled. It will analyze international and national policymaking, the integrations and relationships with bottom-up networks, as well as individual actors' roles in relation to societal change. This course discusses theoretical approaches (such as systems approaches, governance, science and technology) on how to study and explain multi-level interactions, problematizing the relationships and interactions across science, policy and society. The course will also discuss different strategies that are emerging out of the situation prompted by COVID-19 such as the Green Recovery and the Green New Deal, as well as how to navigate in a society where the focus is not on economic growth but rather on enabling a good life within the planetary boundaries. Finally, the course includes participatory elements to develop different future scenarios and transition pathways.

Instruction (course structure): The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The lectures are given by guest lecturers from various academic disciplines and relevant areas of society. Ample opportunities are provided for active student participation and critical reflection. Participation in seminars and lectures is compulsory. Non-compulsory study visits or equivalent may occur.

Assessment (form of examination): The student is examined through written preparation and active participation for the seminars and lectures, as well as oral presentation and written submission of a final project.

Course examiner (name, e-mail): Anneli Ekblom, Senior Lecturer at Department of Archaeology and Ancient History and affiliated researcher at the CCL Node/NRHU, anneli.ekblom@arkeologi.uu.se

Department with main responsibility: Department of Earth Sciences, Natural Resources and Sustainable Development

Contact person/s (course responsible teacher) (name, e-mail): Anneli Ekblom, anneli.ekblom@arkeologi.uu.se

Course dates/period: Spring 2021, Period 4 March/April/May

Maximum number of participants: 20

Submit the application for admission to: helena.fornstedt@angstrom.uu.se

Submit the application not later than: 2021-03-15