Course syllabus

Introduction to Policy and Law

IMEN06, 5 credits, A (Second Cycle)

Valid for: 2018-2019 XAMIS
Decided by: PLED W
Date of Decision: 2018-03-22

General Information

Main field: Environmental Management and Policy. Depth of study relative to the degree requirements: Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements.
Compulsory for: XA_EMP1
Language of instruction: The course will be given in English

Aim

The aim of the course is that the students will have an understanding of environmental policy processes and instruments, and the basic terminology associated with environmental policy in theory and practice. This includes a basic understanding of different types of policy instruments, including market-based instruments, command-and-control instruments, and informative instruments. The students will also learn the basics of international and European Union environmental law, and legal principles, and practice reading legal texts.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
For a passing grade the student must

• Be able to define and explain key terms and concepts of relevance such as: governance, policy, law, informative instruments, financial instruments, regulatory instruments etc.
• Be able to describe key theories in relation to the policy process that guide good policy development.
• Be able to describe and contrast policy and governance at the local, regional, national, European, and international level, orally and in writing.
• Be able to explain the limitations of policy at different levels.

Competences and skills
For a passing grade the student must

• Demonstrate an ability to plan and execute course assignments within given time limits, using relevant methods for completing the assignment, and with an appropriate language.
• Demonstrate an ability to read and understand legal texts and policy documents.
• Demonstrate an ability to apply basic concepts in law and policy when discussing policy interventions

Judgement and approach
For a passing grade the student must

• Be able to critically discuss policy instruments and processes, and understand their inherent strengths and limitations;
• Be able to reflect upon how assumptions and world-views affect our assumptions about environmental problems and how to address them through policies;
• Be able to reflect upon law in a societal context, understanding that the effect of laws depend greatly on context.

Contents

The course consists of lectures, seminars, law reading seminars, and a group assignment. The lectures and seminars deals with a number of topics, including policy instruments, policy evaluation, policy mixes, policy successes and failures, and government-industry interactions. The seminars will also deal with an introduction to environmental law, and introductions to international environmental law and EU environmental law. There will be one seminar devoted to reading legal texts.

Students will be introduced to policymaking at several levels, including international, European, national and local level. The interactions between these levels will also be examined.

The course will also provide students with an understanding of the different foci of policymaking, including the regulation of processes, products, and consumption.

Examination details

Grading scale: TH - (U,3,4,5) - (Fail, Three, Four, Five)
Assessment: In order to pass, the students must successfully participate in all mandatory seminars. The course grade is based upon 1) a written individual assignment and related presentation (50 % of the course grade) and 2) a written group assignment on EU environmental law and related presentation (50 % of the course grade).

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Admission

Admission requirements:

• Students should have been admitted to the MSc Programme in Environmental Management and Policy

The number of participants is limited to: No

Reading list

• According to a literature list that will be available at the latest eight weeks before start of the course on the course web page.

Contact and other information

Course coordinator: Carl Dalhammar, carl.dalhammar@iiiee.lu.se
Course homepage: http://www.iiiee.lu.se/education/emp/curriculum