

Course syllabus

Tillämpad forskning om kommunal styrning och experiment för en övergång till en fossilfri och resurssnål ekonomi Applied Research in Urban Governance and Experimentation for a Transition to Low-carbon and Resource-efficient Economies

IMEN61, 7,5 credits, A (Second Cycle)

Valid for: 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 second-cycle course/s as entry requirements.

Elective Compulsory for: XA_EMP2

Language of instruction: The course will be given in English

Aim

The course is designed to strengthen students' skills in relation to academic writing as well as hone their ability to identify research worthy problems and define questions for applied and interdisciplinary research. At the same time, the course allows students to discuss current research in the broad field of urban governance and experimentation for a transition to low-carbon and resource-efficient economies, giving students the opportunity to learn more about a specific issue or phenomenon related to this field through an individual research assignment.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a passing grade the student must

- Demonstrate the ability to discuss and synthesise extant knowledge relating to a self-selected phenomenon/problem within the broader field of urban governance and experimentation for a transition to low-carbon and resource-efficient economies;
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize, explain and use principles for good practice for the formal elements (relating to structure, style and citation requirements) of a scientific paper;
- Demonstrate the ability to problematise an individual research query and be able to describe and apply this process as a means to generate novel research questions;
- Be able to describe and apply key principles for a systematic review of relevant literature;
- Be able to describe and apply key procedures for structured qualitative content analysis.

Competences and skills

For a passing grade the student must

- Demonstrate the ability to write an individual research paper applying principles of good academic writing;
- Demonstrate the ability to identify salient grey and research literature of relevance to a particular "real life" problem or phenomenon;

- Demonstrate the ability to systematically analyse primary and secondary qualitative data extracted from academic publications, grey literature and/or qualitative interviews;
- Demonstrate the ability to construct/delineate a research problem and define relevant and viable research questions based on an initial review of grey literature (and/or initial interviews with practitioners/experts) and relevant academic literature;
- Demonstrate the ability for peer and self-evaluation of academic writing; • Demonstrate an ability to plan and execute course assignments within given time limits, using relevant methods for completing the assignment.

Judgement and approach

For a passing grade the student must

- Be able to discuss ethical aspects of research and development work and to apply relevant ethical guidelines in their own work;
- Be able to discuss and reflect upon the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used;
- Demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Contents

The course has a dual focus on both skill development for academic writing and deeper learning related to the theme of the course: urban governance and experimentation for a transition to low-carbon and resource-efficient economies.

The latter is catered for by initial seminars, preceded by readings, where key academic publications of relevance to the field are discussed, followed by the students' own research into a particular aspect/subset of this broader field.

The focus on skill development for academic writing is supported by a number of lectures, seminars and workshops on different aspects of academic writing. These lectures and seminars will also teach students to critically read and evaluate research papers. Students will give and receive formative feedback during the research process as well as summative feedback on the final paper.

Examination details

Grading scale: TH - (U,3,4,5) - (Fail, Three, Four, Five)

Assessment: Attendance at workshops and seminars is mandatory. The final grade is based on the quality of the individual research paper (80%), the oral presentation of the research paper (10%) and submitted peer and self-evaluations (10%).

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, and have completed a minimum of 52.5 credits of programme courses

The number of participants is limited to: No

The course overlaps following course/s: IMEN32, [IMEN60](#), [IMEN62](#), [IMEN63](#)

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: Beatrice Kogg, beatrice.kogg@iiee.lu.se

Course homepage: <http://www.iiee.lu.se/education/emp/curriculum>