



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

1KU025 Djurparker i dagens samhälle, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Zoos in Contemporary Society, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Human Geography

Subject Group

Cultural and Social Geography

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2010-05-27

Revised 2020-01-30 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised content, type of instruction and literature.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2020

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for university studies.

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- account for the historical development of zoos,
- discuss different contemporary opinions regarding the importance and role of zoos,
- analyse a zoo from the perspectives of cultural science and social science.

Content

This course discusses the importance of zoos from a societal perspective. The historical development of zoos is introduced, and their relation to colonialism is discussed. The main focus of the course is critical analyses of the importance and role of zoos in contemporary society, including their relation to sustainable development. The course discusses approaches and results in current research on zoos in the cultural and social sciences.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of study questions and quizzes.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The course is examined through written assignments.

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified when the course starts. For students who do not pass their first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examinations at the first and second levels at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Braverman, Irus (2013) *Zooland: the institution of captivity*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 264 p. ISBN 9780804783576.

Frost, Warwick, ed. (2011) *Zoos and Tourism. Conservation, Education, Entertainment?* Bristol etc: Channel View, 260 p. ISBN 9781845411633.

Grazian, David (2015) *American Zoo: A Sociological Safari*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press. 335 p. ISBN 9780691164359.

Additional articles provided through the university library or the online learning platform, ca 150 p., and material on a zoo of the student's own choice in consultation with the examiner.

Additional Study Material

Benbow, M. (2004). Death and dying in the zoo. *Journal of Popular Culture* 37, 379–398 (19 p.).

Franklin, Adrian (1999). *Animals and modern cultures*. London: Sage. Chaps. 1–4, 83 p. ISBN 978-0761956235

Garrett, Erik A. (2014). *Why do we go to the zoo? Communication, animals, and cultural-historical experience of zoos*. Madison: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. 155 p.

Hughes, Peter (2001). *Animals, values and tourism – structural shifts in UK dolphin tourism provision*. *Tourism Management* 22(4): 321–329.

Mellor, David; Hunt, Susan & Gusset, Markus (eds) (2015). *Caring for Wildlife: The World Zoo and Aquarium Animal Welfare Strategy*. Gland: WAZA Executive Office. 87 p.

Mullan, Bob & Marvin, Gary (1999). *Zoo Culture. The book about watching people watch animals*. 2nd edition. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. 170 p. ISBN 9780252067624.

Olney, Peter (2005). *Bygga en framtid för det vilda: Bevarandestrategi för världens djurparker och akvarier*. Bern: World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA). 91 p.

Packer, Jan & Ballard, Roy (2012). *Comparing captive and non-captive wildlife tourism*. *Annals of Tourism Research* 39(2): 1242–1245.

Webber, Sarah; Carter, Marcus; Smith, Wallv & Vetere, Frank (2017). *Interactive*

technology and human-animal encounters at the zoo. International Journal of Human- Computer Studies 98: 150–168.

Wüchmann, Stephanie; Wüst-Ackermann, Peter; Randler, Christoph; Vollmer, Christian & Itzek-Greulich, Heike (2017) Learning Achievement and Motivation in an Out-of-School Setting – Visiting Amphibians and Reptiles in a Zoo Is More Effective than a Lesson at School. *Research in Science Education* 47(3): 497–518.