



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

2KG30E Kulturgeografi III, 30 högskolepoäng
Human Geography III, 30 credits

Main field of study
Human Geography

Subject Group
Cultural and Social Geography

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
G2E

Date of Ratification
Approved 2009-12-02
Revised 2018-06-07 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised objectives and literature.
The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2018

Prerequisites
Human Geography 1-60 credits or the equivalent.

Objectives

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

- summarise contemporary developments and debates in human geography,
- synthesise research literature within a limited area in human geography,
- conduct and discuss an independent scientific work (thesis) in human geography.

Module 1 Theory and Methodology in Human Geography 7.5 credits

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

- discuss current theoretical and methodological perspectives in human geography
- account for a specific research methodology, including ethical aspects,
- evaluate a research plan for a project in human geography.

Module 2 Thematic Specialization in Human Geography 7.5 credits

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

- summarise geographical and spatial aspects of the Anthropocene
- evaluate the Anthropocene in the perspective of earthly human geographies
- conduct an elementary literature review
- write a thesis proposal

Module 3 Thesis 15 credits

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

- independently formulate a study in human geography on the basis of research problem in relation to relevant theory, method and previous research,
- independently evaluate appropriate choice of theories and methods,
- systemically collect, select and critically evaluate material and sources,
- critically review their own and other students' texts in seminars,
- apply relevant research ethical rules and norms in a reflective manner.

Content

The course consists of three modules.

Module 1 Theory and Methodology in Human Geography 7.5 credits

The module address the history of ideas in human geography with a focus on contemporary theoretical developments and debates where methodological consequences are recognized. An emphasis is placed upon reflexive and critical thinking. Methodology is deepened on the basis of individual choices, and the module includes the formulation of an individual research plan.

Module 2 Thematic Human Geography Specialization 7.5 credits

This module is about the Anthropocene and its surrounding debates in science and society. An particular emphasis is on on the challenges it poses for human geography. During the module students also conduct a literature review and make a thesis proposal.

Module 3 Thesis 15 credits

In this module the students practise their ability to independently plan, conduct and present a scientifically based study relevant to human geography by using theories and methods in human geography. The study is presented in a paper. The students also practise their ability to communicate by critically examining, reflecting on and discussing their own and others' work in seminars.

Attendance in seminars, exercises and excursions is compulsory.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars, group work and excursions. Attendance in seminars, exercises and excursions is compulsory.

Examination

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

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. In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must have received the grade of Pass with Distinction for at least 22.5 of 30 credits.

Some seminars might be part of the examination of the course (students are informed about this when the course starts). These seminars include oral presentations of literature or submission of memoranda. Such presentations/submissions might replace a written examination on a specified part of the course literature (students are informed about this when the course starts).

The student writes an essay during the course. The student's performance is assessed in the form of written tests and oral presentations, as well as an independent project/thesis.

For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

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 and the students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time. The evaluation is anonymous. The course evaluation is filed according to departmental regulations.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

List of references Module 1 - Theory and Methodology in Human Geography 7.5 credits

Cresswell, Tim (2013 or latest edition) *Geographical Thought: A critical introduction*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell. 290 pp. ISBN(pocket): 9781405169394

Hubbard, Phil, Kitchin, Rob & Valentine, Gill (eds) (2008 or latest edition) *Key Texts in Human Geography*. London: Sage. 236 pp. ISBN: 9781412922616.

Individual methodology literature is selected upon agreement with the examiner.

Example are:

Crang, Mike & Cook, Ian (2007) *Doing ethnographies*. London: SAGE. 244 p. ISBN 076194446X (pbk)

Rose, Gillian (2016 or latest edition) *Visual Methodologies: An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials*. 4th Edition. London: Sage. 456 p. ISBN 9781473948907 (pbk)

Shurmer-Smith, Pamela (2002 or latest edition) *Doing cultural geography*. London: Sage. 248 pp. ISBN 076196563.

Additional Study Material

Aitken, Stuart & Valentine, Gill (eds) (2006 or latest edition). *Approaches to Human Geography*. London: Sage. 349 pp. ISBN: 9780761942634.

Couper, Pauline (2015) *A Student's introduction to geographical thought: Theories, philosophies, methodologies*. 228 pp. ISBN978-1-4462-8296-0 (pbk).

DeLyser, Dydia, Herbert, Steve, Aitken, Stuart, Crang, Mike & McDowell, Linda (eds) (2010 or latest edition) *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Geography*. London: Sage. 431 pp. ISBN: 9781412919913.

Gregory, Derek, Johnston, Ron, Pratt, Geraldine, Watts, Michael & Whatmore, Sarah (eds) (2009 or latest edition). *The Dictionary of Human Geography*. Fifth edition. Malden: WileyBlackwell. 1,052 pp. ISBN: 9781405132886.

HoltJensen, Arild. (2009 or latest edition). *Geography: history and concepts*. 4th edition. Los Angeles: Sage. 264 pp. ISBN: 9781412946506.

Moss, Pamela (ed. 2002 or latest edition). *Feminist geography in practice: research and methods*. Blackwell, Oxford. 379 pp. ISBN: 0631220194.

Ramazanoglu, Caroline & Holland, Janet (2002 or latest edition). *Feminist methodology: challenges and choices*. London: SAGE. 194 pp. ISBN: 0761951237

Sibley, David (ed) (2005 or latest edition). *Cultural Geography: A Critical Dictionary of Key Ideas*. London: Tauris & Company. 222 pp. ISBN 1860647030.

List of references Module 2 - Thematic Human Geography Specialization 7.5 credits

Latour, B (2018). *Down to Earth: Politics in the New Climatic Regime*. Polity Press. 140 pp.

Selection of Anthropocene literature, ca 100 pp.

Individual literature (literature review), ca 250 pp.

List of references Module 3 - Thesis 15 credits

Flowerdew, Robin och Martin, David (2013). *Methods in human geography: A guide for students doing a research project*. London: Routledge. 337 pp. ISBN 13: 978-0-582-47321-8 (pbk).

Peters, Kimberley (2017). *Your human geography dissertation: designing, doing, delivering*. Los Angeles: SAGE. 241pp. ISBN 978-1-4462-9520-5 (pbk).

Relevant literature for the independent work (bachelor thesis) is selected upon agreement with supervisor.