FACULTY
OF SOCIAL
SCIENCES

SYLLABUS

Reg. No.
U 2026/454

Date 2026-08-12

SGR028F Justice, Equality and the 2030 Agenda, 5 credits, (*Rättvisa, jämlikhet och Agenda 2030, 5 högskolepoäng*) Third cycle / Forskarnivå

Details of approval

The course was established by the board of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Lund University on 2019-06-13.

The course syllabus was approved by the Research Studies Council on 2021-05-26 and was last revised on 2026-08-12. The revised syllabus is valid from 2026-08-12, autumn semester 2026.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course for the social sciences at third-cycle level. The course is theory-based but includes empirical examples.

Language of instruction: Swedish or English

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

- demonstrate knowledge about and understanding of the 2030 Agenda from a wide variety of theoretical and empirical perspectives centred on issues of justice and equality
- critically examine distributional and other societal consequences of processes and institutions central to the 2030 Agenda

- discuss concepts central to the 2030 Agenda from the perspectives of justice and equality
- identify and critically discuss potential conflicts between various Sustainable Development Goals from the perspectives of justice and equality
- critically examine strengths and shortcomings of the 2030 Agenda and of alternative sustainable development visions and frameworks

Course content

The course aims at providing a critical introduction to the 2030 Agenda from the perspectives of justice and equality. The course emphasizes the challenges involved in implementing the 2030 Agenda in both the Global North and the Global South, analysing processes of stratification, social exclusion, discrimination and unequal opportunities. The course takes a multi-scalar approach, linking global processes, politics, institutions and structures to their local practices, outcomes and experiences. The course invites doctoral students to connect their own research to the themes of the course, regardless of their disciplinary background.

Course design

Teaching is provided through a series of linked lectures and seminars that address: the emergence of Agenda 2030 and ideas of environmental justice; ecologically unequal exchange and sustainable welfare; jobs, money and sustainable production and consumption; gender, labour and SDG8; and the essence, practices and implementation of SDG16

Assessment

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. Active participation is required. Continuous examination is applied: students make oral presentations in conjunction with each theme and write a course paper at the end of the course. These together constitute the examination for the course.

Grades

The grades awarded are Pass or Fail. To receive a Pass the doctoral student must fulfil the learning outcomes of the course.

At the beginning of the course, students will be informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus as well as the grading scale and how it is applied at the course.

Entry requirements and selection

Applicants must be admitted to a doctoral programme. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available places in the course, students from the Agenda 2030 Research School, Lund University, will be given priority.