Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development in Sweden, 7.5 hp
Critical Perspectives, 7.5 hp  
*At the Centre for Environment and Development Studies (CEMUS)*

Sweden is often portrayed as a world leader within the sustainability field, but does Sweden live up to that image? Which Swedish cases can serve as inspiration and be considered as good examples of sustainability in practice and which ones are found lacking? Sustainable Development has become a highly contested concept. This course takes a closer, critical look at how Sweden has worked with Sustainable Development historically and how well current initiatives can serve as a model for sustainability on a global level.

Welcome to Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development in Sweden!

Cecilia & Sanna

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**Contact Information**

Feel free to contact us regarding any aspect of the course. *Preferably contact us by email*

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Cecilia Esbjörnsson: cecilia.esbjornsson@csduppsala.uu.se  
Sanna Barrineau: sanna.barrineau@csduppsala.uu.se  
Website: [http://cemusstudent.se/](http://cemusstudent.se/)

We do not have specified office hours, so please contact us by email or during class if you would like to meet in person.  
*Information will be posted on the webpage so make sure to visit it regularly, preferably once a week to check that there are no changes in the schedule.*

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**Course Structure**

A schedule is available on the course website at [http://cemusstudent.se/sdswe/](http://cemusstudent.se/sdswe/).  
The course consists of informative and engaging lectures as well as seminars. Seminars will be interactive seminars where we will take a closer look at the issues and topics brought up both during lectures and in the literature. The classes will take place on Thursday evenings with occasional variations and one Saturday (see the online schedule for specific times as well as changes) and are mandatory attendance. All lectures and seminars require that you are well prepared.  
As the course progresses, you will prepare and present a final paper as part of a group. More information about the final paper, as well as the seminar tasks and sessions, will be presented in class and posted on the course website.

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**Examination**

The course is pass/fail. You cannot attain any higher grade than pass (which translates to C in the International system). Records will show that this is the highest grade possible.

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**Active Participation in Lectures**

We expect you to be active and inquisitive during lectures (and seminars). In order to do this you need to come prepared beforehand by reading the literature. During the lectures we suggest that you practice active note taking which will become useful for your reference during seminars and question sessions [see below].
Log Book
You will be keeping a journal, or log book, throughout the semester. The purpose of the log books is to help you build connections between the diverse lectures and literature. They are also meant as a space for your personal reflections and thoughts.

Seminars
The seminars are compulsory and you also need to turn in seminar tasks and prepare for the seminars. There will be a total of 3 seminars (+ 3 mini seminars). If for some reason you miss a seminar you will have to make up for this by handing in an extra task. The extra task will be more demanding and focused on your individual effort and contribution than the seminars included in the regular schedule.

Case Study Report
The case study report is your final assignment in this class. This report will exemplify your understanding of critical thought on topics of sustainable development within Sweden. You'll begin to work with the case study quite early into the course as a group project. With this report you get the opportunity to look into topics of your own interest that might not have been covered by the lectures. However, aspects of the lectures should still remain relevant.

Literature
Except articles that will be distributed in a printed course reader and also via Studentportalen.uu.se the following books will be used throughout the course:
Case Study Research: Design and Methods, 4th or 5th edition (By Robert K. Yin) will be an invaluable tool to help you with your final project that you will be working with throughout the course.
Use and Misuse of Nature’s Resources: An Environmental History of Sweden (By Natuvardsverket) provides a look into many different areas where sustainability can be implemented and gives more fact based information on the current state of such topics as forestry, energy production, agriculture etc. in Sweden.

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Course Management

Course Coordinators
Cecilia Esbjörnsson is from south of Sweden, but has lived in Uppsala since 2005. Apart from having studied several CEMUS courses, she also has a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology with Environmental Studies as secondary subject and a Master’s degree in Sustainable Development. At the moment she has just started a new Bachelor’s program in Cultural Entrepreneurship.  
cecilia.esbjornsson@csduppsala.uu.se
Sanna Barrineau is from Fairfax, Virginia in the United States and has lived in Uppsala since September 2011. After studying international affairs in the States, she completed her MSc in Environment, Politics and Globalisation at King's College London. Last autumn, Sanna joined CEMUS both as a student and a coordinator.

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Work Group

Malin Östman works as an educational coordinator at Cemus. She is coordinating Cemus Masters courses within the program for Sustainable Development.

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Seema Arora Jonsson is a Ph.D. Assistant Professor in rural development at SLU. Her research focuses on the intersecting fields of gender, development and environmental management.

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Emil Sandström is a Senior Lecturer and head of the department of Urban and Rural Development at SLU. His focus is in rural development and natural resource management.

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Isak Stoddard is the Educational coordinator at CEMUS. He holds a Masters degree in Engineering Physics with a focus on systems technology and renewable energy. For his Masters thesis, Isak travelled to West Java in Indonesia to develop small scale biogas systems in cooperation with two local organizations.

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Daniel Mossberg is Director of Studies at CEMUS. Daniel has studied Art History, Practical Philosophy, Environment- and Development Studies, and Cultural Anthropology.

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CEMUS & Geocentrum

Practical Information
CEMUS is open between 09.00 am and 3.30 pm, Mondays to Fridays. If you want to study in the library during other hours of the day or during weekends, you can get a keycard. To get a keycard, go to the janitors' office next door to the library in Geocentrum.

In CEMUS' multispaces/library you will find literature related to environment and development issues, up-to-date magazines and journals. You can also have a cup of coffee from the nearby coffee shop, hang out in the sofas and read the course literature. All the course literature for CEMUS' courses is available there, but only for reading inside the library, not taking home.

You can use our facilities for organizing open meetings, conferences, seminars, movie shows, lectures, et cetera. Send an e-mail to info@cemus.uu.se for more information and help.

CEMUS education
The education at CEMUS focuses on a comprehensive understanding of the challenges of sustainable development. This demands innovative teaching methods and an interdisciplinary approach. Since its inception, CEMUS courses have been run by students with the continual support of work groups and educational staff, whose members include professors and researchers from Uppsala's two universities.
CEMUS’ primary point of departure and approach is based on what has become known as “education for sustainable development”. Through democratic, grounded and extensive work modes, this teaching method strives to motivate students to heighten their critical thinking skills, as well as encourage responsibility and engagement in the issues of sustainable development.

The courses at CEMUS also function as a complement to the universities’ specialized and disciplinary education. CEMUS is constantly widening its scope to address the most current debates in our society, as well as requests from students. Around 800 students per year take part in one of the many different courses offered at CEMUS.

About CEMUS
CEMUS has as its goal to advance and inspire education and knowledge within the field of environment and development studies, as well as other boundary transcending issues connected to sustainable development.

CEMUS began as an initiative by students in the early 90’s and CEMUS courses are, in large part, still run by students today. Since January 2007, CEMUS joined the Uppsala Center for Sustainable Development (CSD Uppsala) in conjunction with Uppsala University and SLU, Sweden’s agricultural university.

The coordinators at CEMUS help create and run CEMUS courses, at both entry and advanced levels, and they work in close collaboration with well-respected teachers and researchers from both universities.

CEMUS Roots
CEMUS’s Roots is the name of CEMUS’s student organization. By being involved in CEMUS’ Roots and the student council - the board of CEMUS Roots - you represent the interest of students in CEMUS’s different work groups and the board of CSD Uppsala. CEMUS Roots brings up issues concerning the future of CEMUS’s activities, organizes seminars and more.

CEMUS Doctoral Forum (CEFO)
CEMUS research school (CEFO) offers an interdisciplinary environment with doctoral courses and seminars for PhD students and researchers from all disciplines at Uppsala University and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). Find out more at [http://www.cemus.uu.se/cefo/index_eng.html](http://www.cemus.uu.se/cefo/index_eng.html)

CEMUS Forum
CEMUS Forum serves as a forum for student-initiated activities and contact with society at large. The meeting place offers students a chance to start projects, distributes a newsletter with a calendar of local, national and international events, organizes seminars and has a library with a wide range of books and magazines with focus on environment and development issues.

CEMUS is also active via Facebook and twitter:
[http://www.facebook.com/cemuscdupppsala](http://www.facebook.com/cemuscdupppsala)
[http://twitter.com/CEMUSCSUDPSSALA](http://twitter.com/CEMUSCSUDPSSALA)

Other Courses at CEMUS

**Fall semester 2013**

- Global Sustainability Science Course Package, 30 ECTS
- Global Challenges & Sustainable Futures, 7.5 ECTS
- Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development in Sweden, 7.5 ECTS
• The Global Economy – Environment, Development and Globalization, 15 ECTS
• Sustainable Development - Project Management and Communication, 15 ECTS
• Hållbar Utveckling A, 30 ECTS
• Människan och naturen, 7.5 ECTS
• Global miljöhistoria, 7.5 ECTS
• Global Environmental History (distance course), 7.5 ECTS
• Klimatet, energin och det moderna samhället, 7.5 ECTS
• Worldviews and Visions, a Seminar Series (part of the Master program for Sustainable Development – only open to students from the program), 5 ECTS

Spring semester 2014

• Applied Sustainability Science Course Package, 30 ECTS
• Actors and Strategies for Change – Towards Global Sustainabilities, 7.5 ECTS
• Sustainable Design – Ecology, Culture and Human Built Worlds, 7.5 ECTS
• Climate Change Leadership – Power, Politics and Culture, 15 ECTS
• Sustainable Development - Project Management and Communication, 15 ECTS
• Hållbar utveckling B, 30 ECTS
• Livsfilosofi och det moderna samhället, 7.5 ECTS
• Människan och maskinen – perspektiv på teknik, makt och samhälle 7.5 ECTS
• Hållbar utveckling – värderingar, världsbilder och visioner, 15 ECTS
• Worldviews and Discourses, a Seminar Series (part of the Master program for Sustainable Development – only open to students from the program), 5 ECTS

Summer 2014

• Urban Agriculture – Permaculture and Local Food Systems, 7.5 ECTS

Contact CEMUS

Visit us at Villavägen 16 in Uppsala
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www.cemusstudent.se
info@csduppsala.uu.se

Warm Welcome and good luck with your studies!
Cecilia & Sanna