

***When one does not see what one does not see, one does not even see that one is blind***

**– Paul Veyne**

### **Assignment 1**

This assignment is all about trying to see what you don't see. You will have to find relevant literature to back up any ideas or opinions - this literature should be carefully selected. For the first question you should use Gardiner's book, but for the second part of the assignment you are free to choose the literature yourselves.

Please read through the instructions before beginning your work. Take the opportunity to look at a debate area where you have not done any work before, in that way it might be easier to see the debate with "discourse glasses" on. Good luck and have fun!

/ Malin

Part 1, about 800 words

- Use the points Stephen Gardiner makes in his book *The Perfect Moral Storm* to analyze the current Climate Change debate and meetings.

Part 2, about 1200 words

- Find a current debate on something relating to sustainable development (could be global, regional or local) Describe this debate *briefly*
- Identify the actors (which voices are heard?) - Are any voices not heard in the debate, why?
- Connect the different actors' standpoints to different potential "worldviews". Do discourse analyses of the debate. Use references and the questions/points below for guidance!

Questions that could help your analysis are:

*Hidden relations of power in the text*

*Who is exercising this power? Whose discourse is being represented?*

*Who are the spokespeople?*

*Who is the intended audience?*



*What is left unspecified or unsaid?*

*The use of passive voice, or processes expressed as "Things"*

*The use of for instance colorful, descriptive language*

*Would alternative wording of the same information have resulted in a different discourse being privileged?*

*HOW are the events being presented?*

*HOW are the people in the article characterized?*

*What message does the author INTEND you to get from the article?*

*Why was this particular picture chose to accompany the article (if there is one).*

*What kind of repetition exists within the article and within articles of the same topic?*

*What role do media play? What professional media practices assist with the presentation of dominant discourses (for instance editorial constraints, journalistic standards etc?)*

*(From Jordán Masias April 2010)*

Write around 2000 words in a word-document or pdf and upload to the student portal, **no later than April 5<sup>th</sup>**. **Anyone not turning in their assignment on time, will need to do additional work.**