LUND UNIVERSITY

LTH
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Course syllabus

Miljökonsekvensbeskrivning
Environmental Impact Assessment

FMIN45, 7,5 credits, A (Second Cycle)

Valid for: 2023/24
Faculty: Faculty of Engineering, LTH
Decided by: PLED W
Date of Decision: 2023-03-27

General Information

Main field: Technology.
Elective for: L4-fr, W4-ms, R4
Language of instruction: The course will be given in Swedish

Aim

The general aim of the course is that students should acquire knowledge about the use of Environmental Impact Assessment in planning and decision-making, that they should be stimulated to discuss the possibilities and limitations of Environmental Impact Assessment, and that they should train their skills in critical thinking, in identifying and defining a problem and in writing scientific reports.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
For a passing grade the student must

- Be able to describe the aims, development, scope and methods for Environmental Impact Assessment internationally and nationally.
- Be able to analyze critically the possibilities and limitations of Environmental Impact Assessment as a tool in the quest for sustainable development.
- Be familiar with the conditions and forms for a systematic use of Environmental Impact Assessment, especially in the Swedish planning and decision-making system, and be able to contribute to discussions in these matters.

Competences and skills
For a passing grade the student must

- Be able to apply different methods of Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Be able to contribute to the performance of an Environmental Impact Assessment, making use of his/her own specialist knowledge.
- Present and discuss the conclusions reached for the chosen Environmental Impact Assessment.

Judgement and approach
For a passing grade the student must

- Show ability to reflect on his/her learning process.
- Show awareness of the complexity and rapid changes of the environmental tool, and in the possibilities and limitations of the chosen methods.

Contents

The course highlights how Environmental Impact Assessment has developed and is used in Sweden as a tool to provide the general public and decision makers with a preliminary assessment of probable effects on health, environment and society of alternative actions, related to decisions regarding legislation, aims/policy, programmes and projects/activities.

The course discusses the prerequisites and forms for using Environmental Impact Assessment of effects from projects, EIA in the Swedish planning and decision-making system. The course also deals with assessment of environmental effects of certain plans and programmes: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The course consists of lectures, seminars, practical exercises in Environmental Impact Assessment and quality control. Part of the course content is discussed at literature seminars. By taking part in the completion of an Environmental Impact Assessment, the course participants train both their ability to plan and perform a group project and the use of different methods in EIA.

Examination details

Grading scale: TH - (U,3,4,5) - (Fail, Three, Four, Five)
Assessment: Assessment of the student's work is made during exercises, seminars, and presentations. An EIA-exercise is carried out in groups, and reported both orally and in writing. Participation in seminars and presentations is mandatory. The final grade is based half on the Environmental Impact Asessment report and half on the individuel written exams.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Admission

Admission requirements:

- Minimum 120 ECTS credits. Minimum of 6 ECTS credits should be within environmental studies or sustainable development

The number of participants is limited to: No
The course overlaps following course/s: FMI085, FMIN10, TFRN55, FMIN40

Reading list

- Glasson, J, Therivel, R: Introduction to environmental impact assessment. Routledge, 2019. (latest edition).
- Articles and reports.

- The reading list is established each year. Due to the rapid development within the field, this list, valid this year, can be subject to changes.
- Morris P. & Therivel R.: Methods of environmental impact assessment. Taylor & Francis, 2017. Reference.

Contact and other information

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