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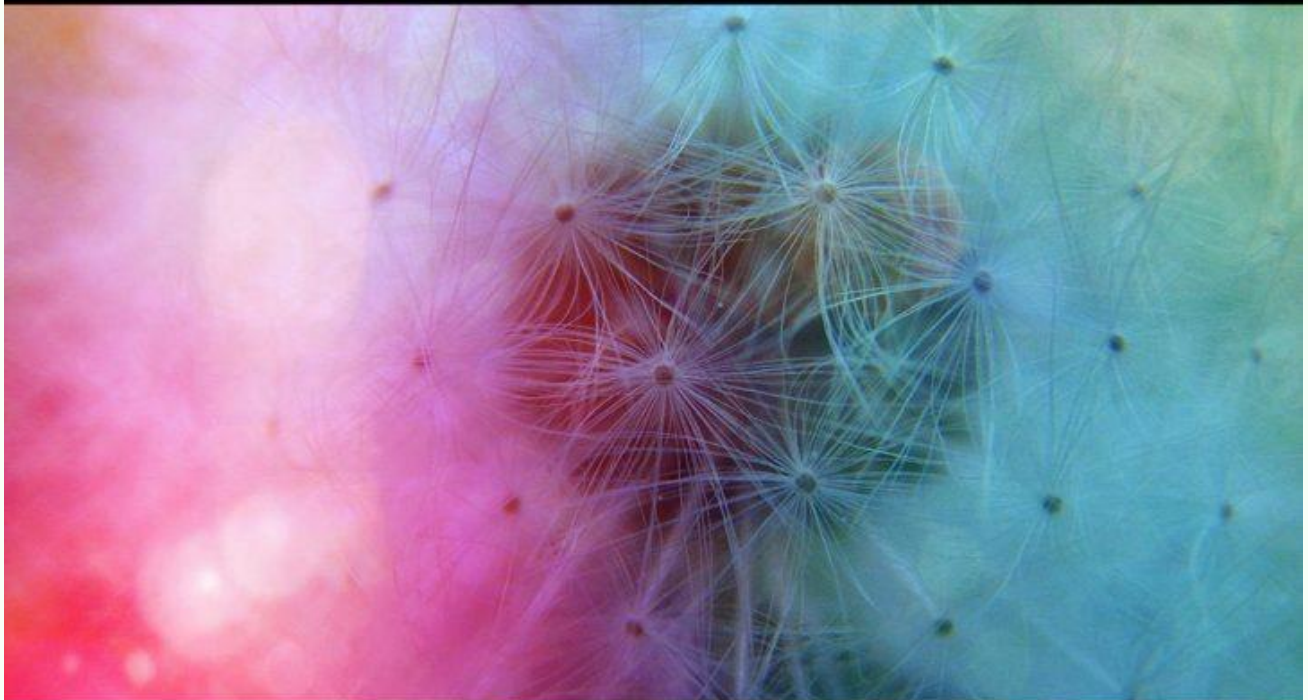


CEMUS

Sustainable Economic Futures

Nature, Equity and Community

15 credits



How could new sustainable economic systems be developed and how would they work? How could different local sustainable economic initiatives from around the world serve as inspiration for the future? How could different economic transactions and activities be remade to improve human and natural communities and mitigate climate change emissions?

The course starts off in a broad theoretical, definitions and conceptual orientation where different interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research areas within ecological economics and environmental economics, and theoretical specializations such as degrowth, steady-state economics, post-growth, aims to clarify and inspire how different sustainable economic systems on different levels can be shaped and implemented by different actors. This orientation also links questions concerning future economic systems with the sustainable development goals and other frameworks for sustainable development.

After this introductory part the course moves on to deepen the discussion and illustrate the ecological, resource, social and cultural conditions and foundations for a sustainable and just future economic system. This process combines systems thinking and an interdisciplinary understanding concerning how these conditions and foundations are connected and interact. The consequences of different future, sustainable economic systems are also investigated and analysed. The many perspectives, questions and discussions in the course give you a long list of areas to focus on in the project work that leads to a practical project.



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Sustainable Economic Futures: Nature, Equity and Community Spring 2020

Course webpage: <http://www.cemus.uu.se/new-course-spring-2020-sustainable-economic-futures-nature-equity-and-community-15-credits/>

Link to syllabus: <http://www.uu.se/en/admissions/master/selma/kursplan/?kpid=38849&type=1>

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Nick Fitzpatrick and Aaron Tuckey

Course Coordinators



COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is divided into three sections (Part I-III). Each module ends with a seminar and an examination task. The course is structured around a lecture series, in which numerous lecturers and authorities from different fields are invited to share their knowledge and experience. Invited lecturers come not only from within academia. Many bring professional experience from the field, including politics, non-governmental organisations and civil society.

The first part of the course is entitled **“Deconstructing the Future(s)”** and provides students an introduction to futures thinking through deconstructing our pre-disposed opinions and biases of how the world works. This is necessary to help us start to re-imagine what a future economy could look like. Activities include understanding key historical contexts, learning how to deal with complex uncertainty, values/emotions/agency for the future and futures methodologies as we learn how to actively participate in and anticipate the future of economies. The key text will be **“Working with the Future: Ideas and Tools to Govern Uncertainty”** by Roberto Poli.

Part II of the course is titled **“Visions for New Economic Futures”** where we start to envision what alternative economies could look like. This includes many practical activities for students including critiquing the Sustainable Development Goals and Planetary Boundaries, designing our own Green New Deal and Transition Town as well as holding debate sessions on key topics. This will be complemented with classes on participatory economics, non-for-profit business models, future cities and energy, socio-ecological economics, voluntary simplicity, deep adaptation and degrowth. The key texts will be Kate Raworth’s **“Doughnut Economics”** and Georgos Kallis’ **“Degrowth: The Economy – Key Ideas”**.

Finally, the course will conclude around the **“Synthesis”** weeks where students consolidate their learnings throughout the semester with a debate session, final assignment presentations and a final written graded paper on a case study of their choice. Open consultation hours and make-up workshops will be available during this time.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Classes will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (please check times in the schedule). All mandatory sessions will spring during these allocated times. The course will consist of a collection of lectures, workshops and seminars. Please note that a total of eight classes are marked as MANDATORY. These are clearly marked in orange on the course schedule. Other classes are recommended but not mandatory. Furthermore, CEMUS hosts many free open events that will be shared during class so feel free to attend!

Class Times and Locations

Lectures and seminars will generally be held from 13:15–16:00 and located at Norrland 1, Geocentrum. Workshops will generally be held from 13:15 to 16:00 at Kollaboratoriet (Östra Ågatan 19), Gamla Torget. HOWEVER, there are many exceptions to this so please check the schedule to make sure you know where each class is. Classes will have a 10-minute break in the middle and observe the 'academic quarter', which is common at Uppsala University, but please arrive on time. Our offices are located at CEMUS headquarters at Geocentrum. However, as we only work park time it is best to email us rather than drop-in.

Lectures, Workshops and Seminars

Lecturers will generally be held by external guests. We encourage all lecturers to engage with the class, and we encourage you to raise questions, be critical of their assertions and point of views. Workshops will generally be held by the course coordinators. They allow us to explore themes in greater depth through in-class discussion and activities. Seminars will generally be tied to assessment items, such as literature reviews, a debate, the collaborative exam and final presentations. These will be run by course coordinators and higher levels of participation and engagement. Sometimes preparatory tasks need to be handed in, check the examination schedule for more info. Please note that we will even have an optional field trip (or two!) during the course.



Workload

The course is 15 ECTS and given part time at 50% for the entire spring semester. This means it is considered 50% of a full-time study workload for a semester. Please note (of special interest for scholarship holders and students on CSN) that even though the ‘course finale’ occurs before the Christmas break, the course will continue to run until the end of the autumn semester. The final weeks will be spent preparing the final assignment and include open consultation hours and opportunities to re-take mandatory classes that you may have missed throughout the semester. Please see the course schedule for exact class dates and expectations on attendance. The workload is approximately 20 hours per week. In-class time makes up a total of 5–6 hours per week. Work on written assignments, reading literature and viewing media material, and preparation for classes, seminars etc. makes up the remaining 14 hours. Based on student feedback from previous years, the course requires a relatively large amount of work for students.

Reading

Course literature consists of

- The Literature Compilation, a set of readings compiled by the course coordinators and the guest lecturers that can be found on the semester schedule
- 3 Course Books
 - Working with the Future: Ideas and Tools to Govern Uncertainty by Roberto Poli
 - Doughnut Economics by Kate Raworth
 - Degrowth: The Economy – Key Ideas by Giorgos Kallis

More information on course literature can be found on the [course website](#).

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes represent the formal constitution of the course and are the goals that are formally examined. They are listed as follows. On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- summarise and reason on central theories, concepts, definitions regarding sustainable economic systems in relation to contemporary and future sustainability challenges;
- account for and critically relate to how different economic sustainable systems can be designed and realised at different levels and by different actors;
- from an interdisciplinary system perspective account for the ecological, economic and social conditions and the foundations of a sustainable economic system;
- apply an ethical and justice perspective on practical issues concerning the design and implementation of future sustainable economic systems;
- evaluate and analyse the consequences of various proposals for future economic systems in a larger sustainability context;
- communicate in writing and orally questions concerning sustainable economic systems;
- initiate, plan, implement and evaluate a delimited project work within the course area.

Evaluation and Feedback

The course coordinators work hard to make the course as interesting and meaningful as possible. We appreciate constructive critique and we will have evaluations at the conclusion of each module. However, please feel welcome to come to us with – or email us – suggestions at any time during the semester.



ASSESSMENT AND REQUIREMENTS

Assessment requirements for Sustainable Economic Futures according to the course syllabus are as follows:

The student is examined through written preparation for (4 credits) and active participation in seminars and workshops (3 credits), and through written documentation (7 credits) and oral presentation (1 credit) of a project. Sustainable Economic Futures is a graded course. While not all elements of the examination are graded, all requirements must be met in order to pass the course. The graded component of the course is determined by the final individual written assignment as marked below. You can find the grading criteria on the course webpage. In order to pass the course, the following criteria will have to be met:

Written preparation for (4 credits) and active participation in seminars and workshops (3 credits)

Active participation in the following classes are mandatory to pass Sustainable Economic Futures.

- Thursday 30th January: Dreamweaving
- Thursday 27th February: Sewing the Seeds of Good Anthropocenes
- Thursday 5th March: Gender, equity and power? A closure looks at the sustainable development goals and planetary boundaries
- Tuesday 17th March: A New Green New Deal
- Thursday 26th March: Debate I
- Tuesday 12th May: Debate II

Instructions for written preparation and active participation will be distributed in the lead-up to these mandatory sessions.

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions make-up seminars are scheduled for the following dates:

- Tuesday 2nd June
- Thursday 4th June

Written documentation (7 credits) and oral presentation (1 credit) of a project

Overview of relevant assessment dates;

- Tuesday 19th May: Final Assignment Presentations
- Monday 25th May (before 17:00): Email assignment to 2 designated peer-reviewers
- Tuesday 26th May: Open Consultation for Final Assignment (please email to book time between 13-15)
- Wednesday 27th May (before 17:00): Email peer-reviewed feedback to two peers
- Thursday 28th May: Open Consultation for Final Assignment (please email to book time between 13-15)
- Friday 5th June: Submit Final Assignment by 17:00



THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE COURSE

Aaron Tuckey coordinated *The Global Economy* in 2018-19 and has previously coordinated the course *Technology, Power and the Future of Humanity*. He also works as a research assistant at the Climate Change Leadership Node at Uppsala University, is finishing a master's degree in 'Social-Ecological Resilience for Sustainable Development' at the Stockholm Resilience Centre and teaches sustainability for 12-15-year-old Swedish school students as part of Framtidsklubben GRO. He holds an Honours Degree in Political Science from the University of Western Australia and has also worked with education and sustainability NGOs in Australia and Colombia.

Nick Fitzpatrick is a returning CEMUS student who is now completing his Master's degree in Ice and Climate between Aarhus University (Denmark) and the Stockholm Resilience Centre. He coordinated *The Global Economy* in Autumn 2019. He is currently a project advisor at the Youth Climate Lab, regularly represents youth at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is involved with various other environmental NGOs (PUSH Sverige, Den Grønne Studenterbevægelse and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition). Originally from Australia, he holds a BSc in Environmental Science from the University of Wollongong.

WORK GROUP

All CEMUS courses include a 'Work Group' of senior teachers and researchers from Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). The work group helps to shape the course and ensure it meets the goals for the learning outcomes. They contribute with ideas and support for lectures, literature, creative seminars and examination methods. They also help to formally examine the students of the course.

Timothee Parrique is a PhD candidate in economics at the University of Clermont Auvergne (France) and the Stockholm Resilience Centre (Sweden). His doctoral research focuses on the political economy of degrowth with a focus on policy making and transition scenarios. He is also a former course coordinator and alumni of CEMUS.

Jennifer Hinton is a PhD candidate in Sustainability Science at the Stockholm Resilience Centre. Her work explores the relationships between core aspects of common business structures (including ownership, legal purpose, and profit-orientation) and global sustainability challenges. Her PhD work is part of an EU-funded project called '[AdaptEconII: Adapting to a new economic reality](#)', which aims to build a sustainable post-growth economic model, using system dynamics methods.

Sachiko Ishihara is a PhD candidate at the Department of Cultural Geography at Uppsala University. Her PhD project examines sustainable rural development in Japan. Specifically, looking at people who moved from cities to countryside, I want to understand: why did they move there? What does a 'good life' and a 'good region' mean for them? How are they experiencing the rural? And how do they relate to and compare with people who have been living there longer? Sachiko is a former course coordinator at CEMUS having taught *Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures* from 2015-2018.

Alexis Engström is a project assistant for Continuous Development of Active Student Participation at Uppsala University. He is also a course coordinator at CEMUS and an alumni of the teacher program at UU. He took part in a student-initiated mentorship program at the Department of History in 2011, and has since then worked to support active student participation

Daniel Mossberg is the course resource person for this course and an education coordinator at CEMUS. He has many years' experience at CEMUS in various roles and running various courses.

Guy Finkill is a former course coordinator of the Global Economy. He holds a master's degree in 'Sustainable Development' at Uppsala University and a master's degree in Environmental Science at the Swedish University of



Agricultural Sciences (SLU). He currently coordinates the course *Climate Change Leadership in Practice* and has previously coordinated *Actors & Strategies for Change*.

Julia Fries is a PhD student in educational drama whose research interest is how drama can be a tool in learning for sustainable development, with a particular focus on economy. She explores how drama can support us in going beyond current paradigm in how we think about sustainability and economy.

Karen Ramirez is a visiting exchange student from the United States of America and is a former student of *The Global Economy* at CEMUS.

Eva Andersson is a Bachelor's student at Uppsala University and is a former student of *The Global Economy* at CEMUS.

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 (ESD)". Through democratic, realistic 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' specialised 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. 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.

More information about us can be found at <http://cemus.uu.se>

CEMUS is also active via Facebook and twitter:

<https://www.facebook.com/cemusuppsala/>

<https://twitter.com/CEMUSUPPSALA>

This autumn CEMUS is offering the following courses:

Spring 2020

- Perspectives on Climate Change – Ecopsychology, Arts and Narratives (7.5 ECTS) *NEW*
- Sustainable Economic Futures – Nature, Equity and Community (15 ECTS) *NEW*
- Hållbar utveckling B (30 ECTS)
- Actors and Strategies for Change – Towards Global Sustainable (7.5 ECTS)
- Teknik, makt och mänsklighetens framtid (7.5 ECTS)



- Sustainable Design – Ecology, Culture and Human Built Worlds (7.5 ECTS)
- Livsfilosofi och det moderna samhället (7.5 ECTS)
- Climate Change Leadership – Power, Politics and Culture (15 ECTS)
- Sustainable Development – Project Management and Communication (15 ECTS)

Sustainability Courses at SLU in Spring 2020

- Sustainable Food Production – Challenges and Cropping System Solutions (7.5 ECTS)
- Humans, Animals, Ecosystems – The One Health Approach in a Sustainable Global Animal Production (7.5 ECTS)

CEMUS Forum

CEMUS is also a meeting place – or forum – for students, organisations, researchers, the private sector and others with an interest in questions concerning sustainable development. CEMUS offers a place for a wide spectrum of different kinds of meetings and activities.

CEMUS Roots

CEMUS Roots is the name of CEMUS' student organisation. CEMUS Roots organises activities, seminars, and more, depending on current interests of the students. Many short term and ongoing projects have launched from CEMUS Roots. To get involved, visit the CEMUS Project Café at the start of the term on @ CEMUS Library/Lounge, Geocentrum (see your schedule or ask any staff at CEMUS for dates) and throughout the term.

Practical Information

CEMUS is open between 9:00am and 3:30pm, Mondays to Fridays. If you want to use the computers or study in the library outside these hours or during weekends, you can easily get a key card. To get a key card, go to the building attendant's office next door to the library in Geocentrum.

In the CEMUS library you will find literature related to environment and development issues, up-to-date magazines and journals. These are supposed to be used by students and personnel at CSD Uppsala only. You can also have a cup of coffee from the nearby coffee shop, slouch 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. Other books that are not course literature are available to borrow. You can use our facilities for organising open meetings, conferences, seminars, movie shows, lectures, etc. Send an e-mail to info@cemus.uu.se for more information and help.

The Language Workshop (Språkverkstaden) at Uppsala University

The Language Workshop offers consultations about written and oral presentations on an individual basis in both Swedish and English. It is free of charge and available to all students on the undergraduate and master's levels. We strongly encourage you to get in touch with the Language Workshop if you are struggling with a paper or want to improve your written English. Their webpage is www.sprakverkstaden.uu.se.

CONTACT INFORMATION & CONSULTATION HOURS

If you have any questions regarding the course, please contact us. The best way is by email, either the course email address or our personal email addresses. You can of course come by our office, but since we do not work full time



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we cannot guarantee we will be there. We will most likely be in the office in the hours leading up to the lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Aaron's e-mail: aaron.tuckey@cemus.uu.se

Nick's e-mail: nicholas.fitzpatrick@cemus.uu.se

Course portal: www.cemus.uu.se/sef

Address: CEMUS, Villavägen 16, 75236 Uppsala

Let's start building a Sustainable Economic Future!

Aaron Tuckey and Nick Fitzpatrick

Course Coordinators