



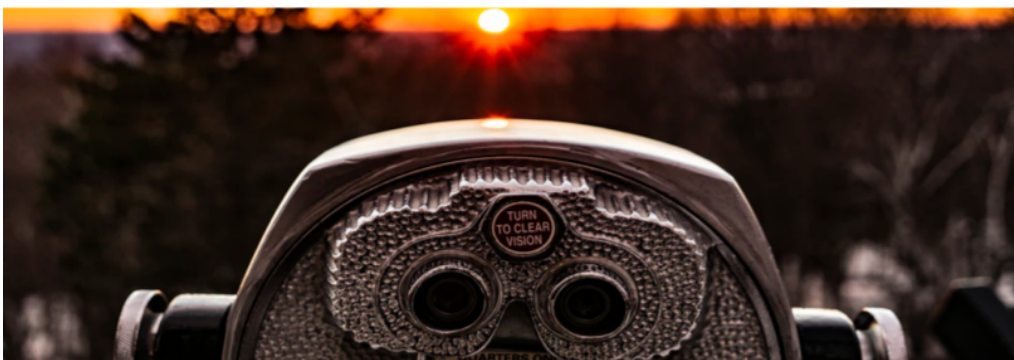
CEMUS



Course Information



GLOBAL CHALLENGES



SUSTAINABLE FUTURES



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Welcome to Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures 2020! | 2 |
| Course Structure | 3 |
| Schedule | 3 |
| Locations | 5 |
| Examination | 5 |
| Examination Layout | 5 |
| Learning Objectives | 5 |
| Examination Schedule | 6 |
| Literature | 7 |
| Global Issues: An Introduction | 7 |
| From What Is to What If | 7 |
| The People Behind The Course | 8 |
| Work Group | 9 |
| Contact Information & Consultation Hours | 9 |

Welcome to Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures 2020!

What are the challenges facing humanity today and in the future? How can we create and rediscover sustainable ways of living on this planet?

During the course we will focus on current global issues, imagine alternative futures and explore strategies for transformational change towards a better future. Throughout the semester, different perspectives and approaches are analysed and discussed in sessions with knowledgeable and inspiring guest lecturers, in order to offer a multidisciplinary understanding of current sustainability issues and different trajectories into the future. Embarking on this journey of discovery, international and Swedish students will be asked to reflect critically on global challenges that the world is facing in order to imagine alternative sustainable futures. Along the way, students will explore their own role in the causes and solutions of these sustainability challenges.

The course is coordinated by Arturo and Emmy. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at: gcsf@cemus.uu.se.

Course Structure

The course is worth 7,5 credits (ECTS) and is thus given at 25% of a full-time study workload, which equals around 10 hours per week. Class is on Tuesday evenings from 17:15 to 20:00, for the entire autumn semester. All classes will be held in the room “Laborativa Lärosalen” at Blåsenhus.

The course is divided into three themes: Global Challenges (Part I), Alternative Futures (Part II) and Sustainable Transformations (Part III). Each part is centered around a key question:

Part I: Global Challenges

What local and global sustainability challenges are we facing?

Part II: Alternative Futures

What could a sustainable future look like?

Part III: Sustainable Transformations

What are possible strategies on different scales to act on sustainability challenges?

Schedule

| | Denotes mandatory session, part of examination. Missed mandatory sessions require attending a make-up Seminar. |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Part I: Global Challenges | |
| Date | Session |
| Tues 1st Sep. 17:15- 20:00 | Course Introduction Introduction to Part I |
| Tues 8th Sep 17:15- 20:00 | Class Activity & Introduction to 30 Day Challenge Lecture: Where are we coming from? The Anthropocene |
| Tues 15th Sep. 17:15- 20:00 | Class Activity & Introduction to “Challenge Café” Lecture: Where are we now? Planetary Boundaries |
| Tues 22th Sep. 17:15- 20:00 | Lecture: Local Governance in the South & Agenda 2030? Class Activity on SDG’s: where are we headed? |
| Tues 29th Sep. 17:15- 20:00 | Workshop: How do we break the cycle? Bubble-Hopping. |



CEMUS



| Tues 6th Oct. 17:15- 20:00 | The Challenge Café |
|--|---|
| Part II: Alternative Futures | |
| Date | Session |
| Tues 13th Oct. 17:15- 20:00 | Introduction to Part II Lecture: Futures Thinking |
| Tues 20th Oct. 17:15- 20:00 | 30 Day Challenge Presentations & Reflection <i>25th of October: Deadline "30 Day Challenge Reflection - Draft"</i> |
| Tues 27th Oct. 17:15- 20:00 | Class Activity Workshop: Speculative Fiction |
| Tues 3rd Nov. 17:15- 20:00 | Class Activity Lecture: "Scenarios: Beyond GDP Growth" <i>8th of November: Deadline "30 Day Challenge Reflection - Peer Review"</i> |
| Tues 10th Nov. 17:15- 20:00 | Presentations: Back to the Future |
| Part III: Sustainable Transformations | |
| Date | Session |
| Tues 17th Nov. 17:15- 20:00 | Introduction to Part III Doughnut Model - Application to Amsterdam |
| Tues 24th Nov. 17:30- 20:00 | Class Activity & Introduction to Final Paper Seeds of a Good Anthropocene: Degrowth |
| Tues 1st Dec. 17:15- 20:00 | Lecture: Imagining the Future We Want Activity: What if, and why not? - Transition Your Town |
| Tues 8th Dec. 17:15- 20:00 | Class Activity Lecture: Urban and Rural Transformations: Gender, Equality and Politics in the Global South |



CEMUS



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| | |
| Tues 15th Dec 17:15- 20:00 | Debate: Battle of the Strategies Roadmap Presentations |
| | |
| Tues 12th Jan. 17:15- 20:00 | <i>On Zoom</i> Inspirational Lecture: “The Future We Choose” ReSeminar (only for those who missed mandatory sessions) <i>17th of January: Deadline “Individual Assignment: Roadmap for a Sustainable Future”</i> |

Locations

All university locations can be found on the UU Mazemap: www.uu.se/map

Address of Blåsenhus: von Kraemers allé 1, Uppsala

Address of Geocentrum (where the CEMUS library is located): Villavägen 16, Uppsala

Examination

The examination of the course is broken down into several components, including written tasks, oral presentation and active participation in seminars. All requirements must be completed in order to pass the course. Further instructions on examination components will be distributed during the course.

The final grade for the course is categorized as “Fail, 3, 4, 5”. While all examination components must be completed, the final course grade will be determined by the grade of the Individual Assignment.

Examination Layout

The student is examined through written preparation for (2 credits) and active participation in seminars and workshops (1.5 credits), and through written documentation (3.5 credits) and oral presentation (0.5 credit) of a project.

Learning Objectives

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:



CEMUS



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



- *from a multidisciplinary perspective account for the present sustainability challenge in a global context;*
- *account for different causes to and possible solutions to the sustainability challenge in a specific city or region, and be able to relate these to global challenges within the sustainability field;*
- *reflect and critically relate to his/her own role relating to the causes and solutions of the sustainability challenge;*
- *evaluate and relate to different visions and ideas about what a sustainable future could entail.*

Examination Schedule

Every session that is part of the examination structure is mandatory to attend. If you miss a mandatory session, you can fulfill this examination by attending the “ReSeminar” on the 12th of January.

| Date | Type of Examination | Title | Grading |
|--|---|---|-----------|
| Throughout the course | <i>Written Preparation</i> | Weekly Preparation Tasks (complete 9 out of 10) | Pass/Fail |
| Tues 6th Oct. 17:15 - 20:00 | <i>Active Participation in Seminar</i> | The Challenge Café | Pass/Fail |
| Tues 20th Oct. 17:15 - 20:00 | <i>Oral Presentations</i> | 30 Day Challenge Presentations | Pass/Fail |
| Sun 25th Oct. 23:59 | <i>Written Documentation</i> | Reflection on 30 Day Challenge (500 words) | Pass/Fail |
| Sun 8th Nov. 23:59 | <i>Written Documentation</i> | Peer Review of two “30 Day Challenge Reflection” Papers | Pass/Fail |
| Tues 10th Nov. 17:15 - 20:00 | <i>Active Participation in Seminar</i> | Back to the Future | Pass/Fail |
| Tues 15th Dec. 17:15 - 20:00 | <i>Active Participation in Seminar</i> <i>Oral Presentations</i> | Debate: Battle of the Strategies Roadmap Presentations | Pass/Fail |
| Tues 12th Jan. | <i>ReSeminar</i> | Make-up session ONLY for those | Pass/Fail |



CEMUS



| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 17:15 - 20:00 | | who have missed a mandatory seminar. | |
| Sun 17th Jan 23:59 | <i>Written Documentation</i> | Individual Assignment: <i>Roadmap for a Sustainable Future</i> (2000 words) | Graded on a scale of Fail, 3,4,5. |

Literature

During the course, we will use weekly learning material, in addition to the two course books. On Studium, the online learning environment, we will prepare an online “compendium” with 1-3 texts, videos, audio files and/or other learning material per week.

There are two mandatory course books which will be used throughout the course: “Global Issues: An Introduction” and “From What Is to What If”. There are several copies of “From What Is to What If” available at the CEMUS library, in the Geocentrum building. These copies can only be read in the CEMUS library and cannot be loaned out. The “Global Issues” book is available online through the UU library, at <https://ub.uu.se/>.

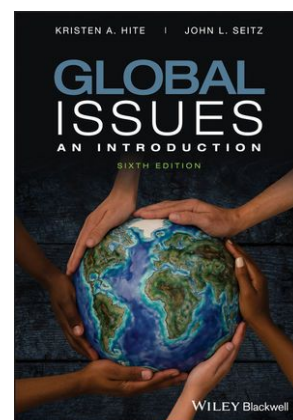
Global Issues: An Introduction

By John L. Seitz and Kristen A. Hite.

5th edition published in 2016. ISBN 9781118968857

6th edition expected in September 2020. ISBN 978-1-119-53850-9

This book is an introduction to many of the most important environmental, economic, social, and political concerns of modern life. It reflects the most important aspects of an increasingly globalized world. It has a focus on development, climate change, pollution, and governance. This textbook remains the only survey-level text in the field to unite the perspectives and approaches of geography, political science, sociology, ecology, international relations, economics, and development studies. With coverage of topics ranging from wealth, poverty, and population to food, energy, and natural resources, this text moves beyond the international to be truly global in focus. The book teaches the essential environmental, economic, social, and political issues of the world today.





CEMUS



From What Is to What If

Unleashing the Power of Imagination to Create the Future We Want

By Rob Hopkins, Published October 2019

ISBN 1603589058



In these times of deep division and deeper despair, if there is a consensus about anything in the world, it is that the future is going to be awful. There is an epidemic of loneliness, an epidemic of anxiety, a mental health crisis of vast proportions, especially among young people. There's a rise in extremist movements and governments. Catastrophic climate change. Biodiversity loss. Food insecurity. The fracturing of ecosystems and communities beyond, it seems, repair. The future—to say nothing of the present—looks grim. *From What Is to What If* is a call to action to reclaim and unleash our collective imagination, told through the stories of individuals and communities around the world who are doing it now, as we speak, and witnessing often rapid and dramatic change for the better.

Imagination is central to empathy, to creating better lives, to envisioning and then enacting a positive future. Yet imagination is also demonstrably in decline at precisely the moment when we need it most. In this passionate exploration, Hopkins asks why imagination is in decline, and what we must do to revive and reclaim it. Once we do, there is no end to what we might accomplish.

The People Behind The Course

Arturo Vidal has been working at CEMUS for almost two years. He is a former CEMUS student and a master's student in Sustainable Development. He is originally from Peru, but has spent almost the last 17 years in Europe. He likes languages and sports, as well as meeting people from different parts of the world.



CEMUS



Emmy Pater started working at CEMUS this year. After a bachelor's degree in Neuroscience and Artificial Intelligence, she realized that robots weren't going to save the world for us, and decided to study a master's degree in Sustainable Development in Uppsala. Originally from the Netherlands, she enjoys being mistaken for a Swede. When Emmy isn't working on her master's thesis on her sustainability-themed Escape Game, she enjoys doing musical improvisation and outdoors activities.

Work Group

Daniel Mossgren; Sara Andersson; Lakin Anderson; Lovisa Håkansson; Laila Mendy; Annik Bernhardt; Sachiko Ishihara; Alexis Engström

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 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.

Course e-mail (best way to contact course coordinators): gcsf@cemus.uu.se

Emmy's e-mail: emmy.pater@cemus.uu.se

Arturo's e-mail: arturo.vidal@cemus.uu.se

Course portal: www.cemus.uu.se/gcsf (in addition to Studium)

Address of CEMUS department: Villavägen 16, 75236 Uppsala