# Actors and Strategies for Change Towards Global Sustainabilities

## Examination for Actors and Strategies for Change: Towards Global Sustainabilities

### 2022

**Syllabus:** Found at the following link (most of the information is also available at the end of this document: <u>https://www.uu.se/en/admissions/master/selma/kursplan/?</u> <u>kpid=38851&lasar=17%2F18&typ=1</u>

### **Examination Model**

Note that the final oral presentation is mandatory for all on the chosen dates

Type of Examination	Grade	Format	Deadlines
Take One Action Seminar	Pass/Fail	Preparation for and partaking in mandatory workshop	February 14th
Actor Roleplay Game	Pass/Fail	Partaking in mandatory workshop	April 11th
Literature and Actor Reflection Seminar	Pass/Fail	Preparation for and partaking in mandatory workshop	April 25th
Oral Presentation	Pass/Fail	Actors in Action Presentation	May 16th & May 23rd
Individual Assignment	Fail, 3, 4, 5	Written Assignment	May 30th



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#### **Choice of Change Literature**

All students will pick 1 book from a list of 8 books about change. The students will need to have read their book and be ready to discuss them for the workshop at the end of module 2.

#### Take One Action Seminar at the End of Module 1 (February 14th)

The first course module will conclude with a workshop where students will reflect on what an actor of change is, how one becomes an actor of change, how the students envision themselves as an actor of change and how this relates to the theories discussed in the first module. Students will prepare by trying one practical action - for example, going to one meeting for an organisation, or making a temporary lifestyle change - and critically reflecting on that change in the context of sustainability issues and the theories of change from module 1. Preparing for and taking part in the workshop will help students develop the ability to "thoroughly reflect on their own role in the causes and solutions of sustainability issues" as well as "from a cross disciplinary perspective account for today's sustainability issues."

#### Actor Roleplay Game (April 11th)

For this game, students will work in small groups to represent different actors shaping sustainable change. Each group's actor will have a set of conflicting aims and strategies and unequal resources to reflect real life. The groups will have to negotiate to achieve their aims. Students will critically reflect on the resulting conflict and inequality, and this practical experience may help to shape their final assignments. Participating and reflecting on this workshop will help students to "describe and evaluate different societal actors' strategies, scope for action and limitations in the pursuit of a sustainable society" and "reason on individual/actor perspective versus structural/system perspectives on societal change."

#### Literature and Actor Reflection Seminar at the End of Module 2 (April 25th)

The second course module will conclude with a workshop where students reflect on the content of the module, discuss the book they chose and reflect on its relation to the content of the course. For the book discussions, students will first discuss in groups of people having read the same book, and then in groups where everyone has read different books. When preparing for and partaking in the workshop students will connect their chosen literature, the theories from the first module and the insights from guest lecture actors to develop a diverse, interdisciplinary perspective of societal change and how it happens. Preparing for and taking part in the workshop will help students develop the ability to "from cross disciplinary perspective account for today's sustainability issues", "describe and evaluate different societal actors' strategies, scope for action and limitations in the pursuit of a sustainable society" as well as "reason on individual/actor perspective versus structural/ system perspectives on societal change."



#### Actors in Action Presentations (May 16th & May 23rd)

For their Actors in Action projects, students will choose an actor (not one that was featured in the course) to research in pairs or small groups. They will study this actor and learn how they go about creating change. The groups will make oral presentations of their actors in relation to the theories of change from module 1 and the literature. Students have creative freedom in how to achieve this, for example via video or other creative formats.

#### Final Assignment - Actors in Action (May 30th)

This written assignments will be individual, students can use the research from their group presentations. For the final assignment, students will compare or connect their chosen actor to an actor or theme from module 2. They should also draw from the theories of change from module 1 and the literature. For the final assignment, students should demonstrate that they have mastered the learning outcomes for the course.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

- From cross disciplinary perspective account for today's sustainability issues
- Describe and evaluate different societal actors' strategies, scope for action and limitations in the pursuit of a sustainable society
- Reason on individual/actor perspective versus structural/system perspectives on societal change
- Thoroughly reflect on their own role in the causes and solutions of sustainability issues.

#### Content

The course gives a broad orientation to the complex sustainability dilemma and highlights different approaches in the pursuit for change. In a multidisciplinary series of lectures with invited guest lecturers, the most serious environmental, development and sustainability challenges of today are discussed, as well as the strategies and scope of action of various actors to solve these problems. Concrete strategies for societal change, at a structural/societal level as well as from an individual perspective, are developed and discussed.

#### Instruction

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and workshops. The lectures are given by guest lecturers from various academic disciplines and relevant areas of society. Ample opportunities are provided for active student participation and critical reflection. Participation in seminars and workshops is compulsory. Non-compulsory study visits or equivalent may occur.



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#### Assessment

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 credits) of a project.

If there are special reasons for doing so, an examiner may make an exception from the method of assessment indicated and allow a student to be assessed by another method. An example of special reasons might be a certificate regarding special pedagogical support from the University's disability coordinator.

#### **Re-seminars and Re-submission of Pass/Fail Assignments**

Students who miss assessed sessions can attend a re-seminar on the 1st of June at 17:15-20:00.

Students can re-submit or submit late pass-fail assignments via studium to us before the end of the course. If the course has ended, see more information about late submission see here - <u>http://</u><u>www.cemus.uu.se/late-submissions-cemus-2021-2022/</u>. The final deadline for late submissions is the 15th of August.



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