# Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures

Autumn 2022

# Schedule

All sessions will be in **Sydney Alrutz in Blåsenhus** unless otherwise specified. Please check **Studium** for any updates to the schedule. Please note some sessions may continue after 19:00; this will be confirmed by the beginning of the course.

**Mandatory exam seminars** are highlighted in green. You must attend these in order to pass the course. See the ‘Examination Structure’ document for further information.

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Description** |
|  |  | **Module 1: Global Challenges** |
| **Tuesday August 30th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Welcome class** *Course coordinators*Overview of the course, getting to know each other, and a brief introduction to systems and futures thinking. |
| **Tuesday September 6th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Just energy transition** *TBC*Technological and geopolitical perspectives on the challenges of providing sustainable energy and with a fair transition. It will take into consideration recent developments and geopolitics.  |
| **Tuesday September 13th** | 10.00-15.00 | **Systems Thinking Workshop** *Jennifer Hinton (Stockholm Uni)*In collaboration with GEC and SDPMC. Full day of lectures and workshops on systems thinking methods. |
| **Tuesday September 20th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Decoloniality and Development** *– Doron Eldar (Uppsala University)*Discussion on whether current mainstream paradigms of international development are fit for purpose in the face of the environmental crisis from a decolonial perspective.  |
| **Tuesday September 27th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Food systems** *Gloria Jimwaga (Afrikagrupperna)*Understanding global food systems and how they are intertwined with other global challenges. |
| **Tuesday October 4th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Globalisation** *Brian Kuns (SLU)*An introduction to globalisation as a concept. Understanding the process(es) of globalisation in politics, economics, and how it affects worldwide challenges. |
| **Tuesday October 11th** | 17.15-19.00 | **How we think** *-Jacob Bull (Uppsala University)*Understanding the cultural barriers of a sustainable transition. How we conceptualise more-than-human beings and the connections to systems of ableism, colonialism, and extractivism. |
| **Tuesday October 18th** | 17.15-20.00 | **Missing perspectives –** *CC/student led* **– Mandatory exam session**This class will wrap up the first module on Global Challenges by allowing you to bring in a theme that you feel was omitted during the module. Each student will give a short presentation and guide a discussion about their chosen missing perspective. |
|  |  | **Module 2: Sustainable Futures**  |
| **Tuesday October 25th** | 17:15-19:00 | **Backcasting and Wild cards** *TBD*Methods of backcasting and wild cards thinking; ways to plan for the future.  |
| **Tuesday November 1st** | 17:15-19:00 | **Decolonial Fiction/Utopias** *Chinelo Onwualu (writer & editor)* Exploring fiction as a way to imagine the future with a focus on who and what gets omitted when different people imagine utopian scenarios. In this session, we spend time imagining utopias and then hold the mirror up to ourselves to ask what and who we include and what and who we omit.*Note: This session will be delivered as a hybrid-lecture.* |
| **Tuesday November 8th** | 17.15-20.00 | **Immersive futures –** *CC/student led* **– Mandatory exam seminar**In groups, students create an immersive experience for each other that represents a distant sustainable future, using what they have learnt in the previous two seminars. |
| **Tuesday November 15th**  | 17:15-19:00 | **Participatory Futures** *– Emilie Li Johansson (Lund University)* Participatory Futures refers to a range of approaches for involving citizens in exploring or shaping potential futures. It aims to democratise and encourage long-term thinking and inform collective actions in the present. This session transitions the students from the somewhat distant and hypothetical futures thinking methods used previously, towards the next module. |
|  |  | **Module 3: Local Opportunities, Better Presents** |
| **Tuesday November 22nd**  | 17.15-20.00 | **Seeds of a Good Anthropocene** – **Mandatory exam seminar**Interactive workshop on identifying and understanding seeds for sustainable futures; small-scale initiatives that have the potential to grow into the mainstream |
| **Tuesday November 29th**  | 17:15-19:00 | **Seeds in Uppsala** *Guest to be decided by students!*A guest from a local Uppsala initiative (i.e. a seed) to discuss their organisation. The focus is how they are making our present day better as the route towards a sustainable future. They would talk about how their organisation started, go into more detail about how it is run, and whether futures thinking plays a part in their planning processes. Students will vote on their preferred guest organisation towards the end of module 1. |
| **Tuesday December 6th**  | 17:15-19:00 | **Local climate policy/strategy** *Marika Palmér Rivera (Sustainability Department at Uppsala Municipality)*Uppsala kommun’s perspective on climate change and climate governance. This class will dive deeper into the challenges of tackling climate change at a local level, focusing on official policy and legal strategies. |
| **Tuesday 13th December** | 17:15-20:00 | **Case studies** *CC/student led -* **Mandatory exam seminar**Participatory seminar where students have the opportunity to share their in-depth case studies. Case studies are on local initiatives, understanding how they work towards sustainable futures and how they relate back to global challenges. |
| **Tuesday December 20th**  | 17.15-19.00 | **Social justice in better presents** *Lan Pham (Skogsupproret activist)*Understanding how global systems of oppression and discrimination can be dismantled by individuals/ small groups on a small scale as a step towards creating a better world.*Note: This session will be delivered over zoom.* |
| **Tuesday January 10th** | 17.15-19.00 | **Open session with CCs** |
| **Friday January 13th** | TBC | **Re-seminar** The opportunity for students to complete any missed assessment seminars |