



SLUkurs

Syllabus

PNS0150 Postcolonial theory and notions of development for post-graduate students, 7.0 credits

Syllabus approved

2017-05-22

Subjects

Other Social Science

Education cycle

Third cycle

Grading scale

Pass / Failed

The requirements for attaining different grades are described in the course assessment criteria which are contained in a supplement to the course syllabus. Current information on assessment criteria shall be made available at the start of the course.

Language

English

Prior knowledge

Registered as a PhD student.

Objective, including learning outcomes

This course will examine the emergence, institutionalization, and challenges posed to postcolonial theory through a set of key theoretical and empirical texts, mainly

from the last two decades, but the founding ideas and texts of postcolonial theory will also be presented and discussed. Postcolonial terms, such as ‘master narratives’, ‘subalterns’, poly-vocal’, ‘hybridity’, ‘dominance and hegemony’, ‘fragmented’ and ‘diaspora’ will be contextualised and critically analysed. The problematic relation between postcolonial orientations and notions of development will also be a focus of the course. This course is designed to expose you to key readings that will form a foundation for further thinking and exploration on issues of colonialism, postcolonialism and "development".

Upon completion of the course, the participants will be able to:

- describe the theoretical context and development of postcolonial theory
- describe theoretical concepts and arguments highlighted in the course
- use theoretical concepts and perspectives in relation to overall discussions and to their own research projects
- argue for the importance of postcolonial perspectives for studies on race/ethnicity and gender

Content

The course consists of a series of discussion seminars on distinct texts and how they can be used to shed light on the PhD-students’ specific research projects. Every student will select one research text on postcolonialism and development and be responsible for a presentation and analysis of this text. The students of the course will read all texts, which are part of the course and actively discuss their contexts, their perspectives and the impacts on their own research projects. The course depends on the students’ contributions to the discussion. In order to achieve this, the PhD-students are expected to attend all the seminars and have read the text of each seminar.

Requirements for examination

The examination consists of a written text, presentations and exercises. For successful completion of the course the student must pass approved examinations, conduct the compulsory exercises and participate actively in the seminars.

Additional information

The course is organized within the research school Society and Landscape at the Department of Urban and Rural Development at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Responsible department

Department of Urban and Rural Development