



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

# SLUkurs

## Syllabus

**PNG0053 Global Challenges in Food Security: Theory and Methods,  
6.0 credits**

## Syllabus approved

2014-01-09

## 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

To have been accepted as a PhD student at a university department.

## Objective, including learning outcomes

The overall objective is to elaborate on themes in the field of research methodology and research design. The aim is also to give opportunities for the participating

PhD students to discuss theoretical and methodological issues in relation to their PhD projects. Practical applications will be discussed in the context of selected field cases.

## **Content**

The course will contain lectures, discussions and seminars and a visit to field cases.

In lectures, key concepts and themes in the interface of natural and social sciences research will be discussed, such as social constructionism, systems thinking, reflexivity, gender and development, and methodologies, such as action research and case studies. On completion of the course, participants will be better able to position themselves in the landscape of theories and methods and have improved their skills to develop a problematic issue into a research design and methodology choice.

Course components:

Part 1 (4,0 credits): Individual reading of literature. Lectures and seminars

Part 2 (2,0 credits): Field trip, group work and discussions.

## **Requirements for examination**

Active participation during the intensive field visit and the lectures and seminars including studies of literature and presentation and discussion of a group work – in all four weeks full time work load.

## **Additional information**

Course application: Use a separate form which can be requested by email to Rolf.Johansson@slu.se. Deadline for application is 31 January 2014.

The venue will be the Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies, located within the University of Nairobi, 17-28 March 2014.

Lecturers/supervisors:

A team of teachers from SLU, Department of Urban and Rural Development will be involved in the course. Responsible for the course are Prof. Rolf Johansson and Prof. Nadarajah Sriskandarajah.

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

**Responsible department**

Department of Urban and Rural Development