



# SLUkurs

## Syllabus

**PFS0111 Governance of commons - challenges and opportunities, 7.5 credits**

## Syllabus approved

2014-06-26

## Subjects

Economy

## 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

The course is a master or PhD level course, requiring the student to hold a bachelor or equivalent.

## Objective, including learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student should:

- have a comprehensive view of the key issues of commons,

- understand the principles of governance of commons,
- understand the principles of economic policy tools,
- be able to discuss and analyse governance forms for commons.

## **Content**

The course is aiming at discussing the challenges of policy making when dealing with commons. From anticipating Hardin's "tragedy of the commons", in recent decades the commons have been rediscovered and reformulated into a paradigm of self-governance. The thematic scope has thus widened to incorporate not only natural resources such as ocean fisheries or forests but also for instance Wikipedia and public spaces. This course, however, focus on traditional commons in a Northern context but from a multidisciplinary perspective. The course will start with a brief introduction to commons theory, going on to discussing different modes of governance (from hierarchy to self-governance) before moving on to policymaking tools. It draws primarily on institutional and economic analysis. The main focus will be on presenting and analysing real world cases. The course will be a combination of lectures, seminars and writing of an essay where students may develop a commons perspective on a topic relevant to their own work. The student will be required to read course literature ahead of meeting in Umeå.

Content:

- Common pool resource theory
- Governance theory
- Policy tools
- Empirical examples of commons.

## **Requirements for examination**

The course is examined by essay as well as attendance to seminars and excursion. The grade awarded for the course is pass or fail.

## **Additional information**

Teachers:

Prof. Leticia Merino (IASC) will introduce the course while PhD Anna Zackrisson (Umeå University) and PhD Camilla Widmark (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) will continue. During the workshop, several senior lectures and researchers will participate to share their knowledge and experience of governance of commons and policymaking.

The course is held in connection to the 3rd IASC European Meeting, which makes the keynote presentations a part of the course as well as the conference excursion.

The course will be offered if there are at least ten (10) students (master or PhD-candidates) that apply for the course.

For more information on the course, please see

<http://www.slu.se/sv/institutioner/skogsekonomi/iasc-2014/pre-conference-activity/>

**Responsible department**

Department of Forest Economics