



School of Economics and Management

EEH0038F, Introduction to the Circular Economy, 7,5 credits

Introduktion till den cirkulära ekonomin, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2021-09-14 be valid from 2022-01-01, spring semester 2022.

General Information

This is an optional course in the PhD programme.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Economic History

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student will shall acquire advanced knowledge on the principles of the circular economy, their theoretical underpinnings and their practical application in a selection of industries.

More specifically, to pass the assessments, students have to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Show a thorough understanding of the key elements in transformations towards a circular economy
- Show a thorough understanding of the theories and research methodologies in the fields of economics and business administration related to the circular economy

Competence and skills

- Show an ability to perform an independent analysis and theorization of research problems related to a circular economy
- Show an ability to apply the concepts learnt in the course to the analysis of particular products or industries

Judgement and approach

- Show an ability to critically discuss the limitations of the circular economy concept, its practical application, and scaling-up.
- Show an ability to critically assess the relevance and implications of their findings for research as well as policy purposes;

Course content

This is a seminar-based course offered only to a limited number of second year students enrolled in the Master program in Innovation and Global Sustainable Development. In this course, students will learn about the principles of the circular economy and its practical application in the analysis of different industries and products; what the main challenges for a transition to a circular economy are, and what policymakers and regulators can do to ease the transition to a circular economy. The course is strongly based on readings and discussions.

Course design

The course is organized around a number of topical sessions. For each topical session, the students will need to write in advance a short essay around a key questions based on a list of compulsory readings and actively discuss them in a group meeting. The course ends with a paper assignment applying the learnings of the course to a particular industry or product that also is presented for the group.

Assessment

The course is designed as a series of lectures and seminars around key readings. Assessment is based on active participation in the seminar sessions and reflection papers related to each of the seminar sessions. To pass the course, the participant must actively take part in the scheduled activities (80 per cent attendance) and have all assignments approved.

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

The course is organized around 4 topical sessions. For each topical session, the students will have compulsory readings that will be discussed in class. Additionally, the students will be required to prepare a practical case.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail or Pass.

Entry requirements

PhD students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, business administration, economic and social geography, economics, history, sociology or the equivalent knowledge.