

GLOBAL CHALLENGES



SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Course information - Autumn 2017



CEMUS



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Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures

CEMUS | Centre for Environment and Development Studies | Autumn Semester 2017

What is a sustainable world you would like to live in?

That would satisfy your deepest dreams and longings?...

It lives in me, a sustainable world that isn't a sacrifice or a bunch of different regulations, a sustainable world that I would love to live in...

What would make this a world that would make you excited to get up in the morning and go to work with?

Donella Meadows

in *Creating a Sustainable and Desirable Future*

This year Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures (GCSF), an interdisciplinary course at the Centre for Environment and Development Studies (CEMUS), is given for the 10th time. The course is built on informative and engaging guest lectures on various global challenges of our time. Using interactive workshops, seminars and two projects, we will take a closer look at sustainability issues and how they are interconnected, by looking at specific regions and cities, both from global and local perspectives. The course is going to give an overview of different challenges that are happening on our planet, providing, also, a space to think and discuss about futures and what are the actions required, at different scales, to achieve sustainable ones.

We hope that you will find your time here exciting, fulfilling and inspiring.
Welcome to the course!

Thomas Schallhart and Sachiko Ishihara
Course Coordinators

CONTACT INFORMATION

Feel free to contact us regarding any aspect of the course. Preferably contact us by email or during class if you would like to meet in person.

Course Email: gcsf@csduppsala.uu.se
Sachiko Ishihara: sachiko.ishihara@csduppsala.uu.se
Thomas Schallhart: thomas.schallhart@csduppsala.uu.se
Course website: <http://www.web.cemus.se/gcsf/>

Information will be posted on the website, so please make sure to visit it regularly, preferably once a week to check that there are no changes in the schedule.

Visit us at CEMUS, Geocentrum, Villavägen 16, Uppsala
Telephone: 018-471 27 95 / www.cemus.uu.se

LEARNING PROCESS & COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is for 7.5 credits (ECTS) and is given part-time (25% of full-time study workload) with class once a week on Tuesday evenings (usually at 17:15-20:00) throughout the whole Autumn semester.

The course schedule, list of course literature, instruction for assignments, and other course information will be posted on the course website and updated throughout the course. So, please visit the course portal regularly for the latest information and updates: <http://www.web.cemus.se/gcsf/> and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail: gcsf@csduppsala.uu.se.

The course consists of engaging lectures, seminars and workshops, as well as examinations including individual and group work. Guest lecturers from different fields, both from academics and other actors, will hold lectures on various global challenges. The seminars will be mainly interactive discussions on the literature and take a closer look at topics from lectures. The workshops will be a space to share and co-create knowledge related to the assignments and our own experience related to challenges we are facing today.

Attendance to workshops, seminars and presentations is mandatory, and preparation and active participation in lectures, workshops and seminars is a requirement to pass the course. You will be given several assignments to complete both individually and in groups. As the course progresses, more information about these assignments and examination, as well as the seminar preparation tasks and sessions, will be presented in class and posted on the course website.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- From a multidisciplinary perspective account for the present sustainability challenge in a global context.
- Account for different causes to and possible solutions to the sustainability challenge in a specific city or region, and be able to relate these to global challenges within the sustainability field.
- Reflect and critically relate to his/her role relating to the causes and solutions of the sustainability challenge.
- Discuss and relate to different visions and ideas about what sustainable futures might mean.

EXAMINATION

GCSF is a graded course (Fail-3-4-5). In order to pass the course, the basic requirements that you will find on the assignments instructions need completion. In order to get higher grades, you will need to meet the General Grading Criteria that you will find on the Course Website. Specific instructions for each examination will be provided during the course.

Active Participation

We expect you to actively participate during the course sessions, as discussions and questions are essential components for achieving your own learning and contributing to your classmates' learning. You should come prepared by reading the assigned literature *before* each lecture or seminar/workshop session. The course requires 75% attendance in order to pass the course.

Student-Led Sessions (SLS)

In relation to your *Active Participation* in the course, students will organize a part of each lecture session and other relevant activities out-of-class. We will have a group of students planning and facilitating an interactive activity or discussion seminar after the lecture. Further information will be provided on the groups, and don't worry if you have never done this before – you're not alone and specific guidance will be provided!

Workshops and Seminars

Participatory and interactive pedagogical methods are essential in dealing with messy, complex problems such as the global, sustainability challenges, where there is no straight answer to anything. Since this is a core compartment of the course, if you miss any of the sessions labeled *Workshops* or *Seminars*, you are required to turn in an extra make-up task. The extra task will be equally demanding and is focused on your individual effort and contribution to the content discussed during the seminars included in the regular schedule.

Assignments

In addition to the participation above, you will be given other examination tasks throughout the course:

- 30 Day Challenge
- 2 Literature Reviews
- Project: Back from the Future We Want
- Paper at the end of the course

More information about each of these assignments will be given as the course progresses, in class and on the course website.

LITERATURE

The course literature consists of one book and one film, which you will read/watch throughout the course, and a Course Reader.

The book we will read is:

- Oreskes, N. & Conway, E.M., 2014. *The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future.*

The film we will watch and analyse:

- BBC, 2017. *Carnage: Swallowing the Past.*

The book can be ordered online at websites such as Adlibris.se, Bokus.com and amazon.co.uk. It will be also available in CEMUS library – but only for reading in the library, not for borrowing.

A **Course Reader** is used in parallel to the course books. This is a compilation of articles and book chapters, selected and developed by the Course Coordinators and the lecturers in relevance to each lecture session.

This reader can be found on the Course Website every week. A few printed copies of the Course Reader will be available in the CEMUS Library.

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE COURSE

Here is a brief presentation of us working with this course for Fall 2017.

Course Coordinators

Sachiko Ishihara is from Japan. She has a bachelor's degree in Agro-biological Resource Science, along with a teaching degree in Natural Science for high schools in Japan. She has a master's degree in Sustainable Development from Uppsala University and SLU. She has started working as a course coordinator in spring 2015 and also coordinates CEMUS Outreach activities at CEMUS Forum (e.g. Open Events) and the CEMUS Research Forum (CEFO, Research Seminars).

Thomas Schallhart is from Austria. He has studied Biology, Philosophy and Scandinavian Studies in his undergrad at the University of Vienna and has a Master's Degree in Environmental Communication from SLU. He is active in global education projects, peace activism, environmental activism and is an administrator on Wikipedia. This is the first time he works as a course coordinator.

Course Work Group

All CEMUS' courses collaborate with a work group of senior teachers and researchers from Uppsala's two universities. The work group will contribute to course content, concepts, and examination methods.

This year's group consists of:

Malin Östman is an educational coordinator at CEMUS. She has experience in pedagogical development, and has background in philosophy, American studies, history of art, aesthetics, environment and development studies and anthropology.

Martin Westin is a facilitator and process designer at the Swedish International Centre of Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDESD). He is a PhD candidate in Environmental Communication at SLU. His research is focused on collaborative planning. Martin will also be a lecturer in our course.

Daniel Mossberg is the Director of Studies at CEMUS. He has worked at CEMUS since 2004 and has a background in Cultural Anthropology, Philosophy and Sustainable Development.

Kajsa Kramming is a researcher and project manager at SWEDESD. She has a PhD in cultural geography from Uppsala University, looking at how highschool students make sense of climate change in terms of agency.

Josefin Wangel is a researcher at the Department of Urban and Rural Development at SLU. She was previously an Associate Professor in Sustainable Urban Planning at KTH in Stockholm. Her research looks at the limitations of urban planning for sustainable lifestyles and works with Future sStudies. Josefin will also be a lecturer in our course.

Lakin Andersson is a former Course Coordinator at CEMUS and is a PhD candidate at the Department of Business Studies at Uppsala University. He has been working with Design Fiction, and has been a guest lecturer for this course last year.

Alejandro Marcos Vallos is a former course coordinator for Global Challenges and Sustainable Futures and other CEMUS courses (Project Management and Communication, Introduction to Interdisciplinary Science, etc.). He has been involved in CEMUS since 2012 and a course coordinator since 2014. He is currently a PhD candidate at Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Linnéa Sundberg and **Emily Coe-Bjorsell** are the student representatives for this Working Group, giving feedback and reflection from the course of 2016.

CEMUS

CEMUS Education

The education at CEMUS focuses on a comprehensive understanding of the challenges of sustainable development. This demands innovative teaching methods and an interdisciplinary approach. Since its inception, CEMUS courses have been run by students with the continual support of work groups and educational staff, whose members include professors and researchers from Uppsala's two universities.

CEMUS' primary point of departure and approach is based on what has become known as "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)". Through democratic, realistic and extensive work modes, this teaching method strives to motivate students to heighten their critical thinking skills, as well as encourage responsibility and engagement in the issues of sustainable development. The courses at CEMUS also function as a complement to the universities' specialized and disciplinary education. CEMUS is constantly widening its scope to address the most current debates in our society, as well as requests from students. Around 600 students per year take part in one or more of the many different courses offered at CEMUS.

CONTACT: Daniel Mossberg // daniel.mossberg@csduppsala.uu.se

About CEMUS

CEMUS has as its goal to advance and inspire education and knowledge within the field of environment and development studies, as well as other boundary-transcending issues connected to sustainable development. CEMUS began as an initiative by students in the early 90's and CEMUS courses are, in large part, still run by students today. Since January 2007, CEMUS joined the Uppsala Center for Sustainable Development (CSD Uppsala) in conjunction with Uppsala University and SLU, the Swedish University for Agricultural Sciences. The courses at CEMUS are built in collaboration between students, course coordinators, teachers, researchers, university administrators and societal actors.

CONTACT: Isak Stoddard // isak.stoddard@csduppsala.uu.se

WEB: <http://www.web.cemus.se/>

FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/cemuscsduppsala>

TWITTER: <http://twitter.com/CEMUSCSDUPPSALA>

NEWSLETTER: Sign up at www.cemus.uu.se/cemusnewsletter.html

CEMUS also organizes the following courses:

Fall semester 2017

- Climate Change Leadership in Practice, 30 ECTS
- Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development in Sweden, 7.5 ECTS
- The Global Economy – Environment, Development and Globalization, 15 ECTS

- Sustainable Development – Project Management and Communication, 15 ECTS
- Hållbar Utveckling A, 30 ECTS
- Global miljöhistoria, 7.5 ECTS
- Klimatet, energin och det moderna samhället, 7.5 ECTS
- Worldviews and Visions, a Seminar Series (part of the Master program for Sustainable Development – only open to students from the program), 5 ECTS
- Worldviews and Discourses, a Seminar Series (part of the Master program for Sustainable Development – only open to students from the program), 5 ECTS
- Introduction to Interdisciplinary Science (part of the Master program for Sustainable Development – only open to students from the program), 5 ECTS

Spring semester 2018

Courses will be announced shortly at <http://www.web.cemus.se/education/>

Collaboration & Partnership – CEMUS Forum

The scope of the CEMUS model is not limited to the classroom setting. CEMUS Forum organizes open lectures, conferences and festivals on education for sustainable development, film showings, discussions, workshops and a variety of other events. Much of this work is done in collaboration with students, in the envisioning, planning and delivery stages. These events are intended to not only attract current university staff and students, but also alumni, government officials, interested individuals and organizations. The aim of this work is to extend the educational core of the center by bridging the gaps between the theoretical and the practical, the young and the old and the academic and non-academic worlds, as well as to create a meeting place for people interested in interdisciplinary education and sustainable solutions. At the beginning of every semester, CEMUS Forum and CEMUS Roots (our student organisation) host a Project Café. This is a great way to get involved with current projects at CEMUS and share new ideas and projects you would like to make happen.

CONTACT: Sara Andersson // sara.andersson@csduppsala.uu.se
Sachiko Ishihara // sachiko.ishihara@csduppsala.uu.se

Transdisciplinary Research – CEMUS Research School

Cemus Research Forum (Cefo) is an interdisciplinary research school for PhD students that focus on broad environment and development-related issues. As a PhD student associated to Cefo you aim to participate actively in Cefo's research seminars (about 5 seminars per term) and propose activities according to your own research interest. The courses and the seminars are also open for those doctoral students that are not associated to CEFO.

CONTACT: Sachiko Ishihara // sachiko.ishihara@csduppsala.uu.se

CEMUS Roots

CEMUS Roots is a dynamic and self-governing student-run group, inclusive to all. It was established in order to allow students to take an active role in influencing the way that education is conducted at the center. Active participants have in the past taken on the roles of CEMUS student representatives attending university faculty and board meetings. Conferences, field trips, lectures, workshops, film showings and open-panel discussions are just some of the types of events which the group has realized in the past, both with and without the cooperation of staff. In CEMUS Roots students have the opportunity to realize their visions for a more sustainable culture, and fill in the gaps of their education in ways which are most beneficial to their learning.

roots.cemusstudent.se
www.facebook.com/CEMUSRoots

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

CEMUS is open between 9:00am and 15:30pm, Mondays to Fridays. If you want to study in the library outside these hours or during weekends, you can easily get a key card. The key card also gives access to the main Geocentrum entrance, which is locked after 17.00 and before 08.00. To get a key card, go to the building attendant's office, next door to the library in Geocentrum. (You must be registered for a CEMUS course to get the key card.)

CEMUS Library // Lab // Lounge

In the CEMUS Library // Lab // Lounge you will find literature related to environment and development issues, magazines, journals and other publications, such as master and doctoral theses. You can also have a cup of coffee from library self-service "café", slouch in the sofas and read the course literature. The library is a shared space for staff, coordinators and students – please respect the guidelines posted in the library to ensure a pleasant work and study environment for all. It is possible to book the library for CEMUS-related activities, however, educational activities such as seminars have precedence. All the course literature for CEMUS courses is available there, including several shelves of reference books. These may only be read inside the library, and are not to be taken home. There are also books that can be borrowed through the Geocentrum Library.

Geocentrum library



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The Geocentrum Library is located down the hall from CEMUS. Copies of the CEMUS course literature are available for borrowing there. You can also go there to borrow books from the CEMUS library (only the ones that are marked with the Geo-library system).

The Language Workshop (Språkverkstaden) at Uppsala University

The Language Workshop offers consultations about written and oral presentations on an individual basis in both Swedish and English. It is free of charge and available to all students on the undergraduate and master's levels. We strongly encourage you to get in touch with the Language Workshop if you are struggling with a paper or want to improve your written English.

www.sprakverkstaden.uu.se

