



# Human and Social Development within Planetary Boundaries

Level: 1st cycle

## Admission requirements

General admission requirements for university studies. The course is a freestanding course.

## Educational goals

After having completed the course the students are expected to:

- Be able to give a general account of concepts within sustainability science.
- Show the ability to discuss the trends in human-caused global environmental changes and responses that aim at addressing these changes.
- Demonstrate the ability to discuss pathways for ensuring safe and just human development for present and future generations.
- Understand key concepts of global environmental changes and their theoretical underpinnings.

## Course content

This course will help students to explore a range of emerging approaches and concepts within sustainability science, such as the Anthropocene, planetary boundaries, the social-ecological systems approach and resilience thinking. Participants will be equipped with means of exploring pathways to ensure safe and just human development for present and future generations. This will be done by exploring key concepts of global environmental changes and their theoretical underpinnings, as well as studying current debates in the global sustainability arena and examples of approaches and solutions currently being developed. The course will use the Massive Online Open-source Course offered by the Stockholm Resiliency Center as a basic resource.

## Teaching and examination

Teaching is given by means of discussion seminars in Stockholm and Uppsala, as well as visits to the Stockholm Resiliency Center and the Stockholm Environment Institute. The MOOC offered by SRC will be a basic resource for the course.

Students are expected to do assigned readings, to participate actively in working sessions with scientists, and to write one short essay of 2500 words on a topic selected in conjunction with the course leader.

## **Bibliography**

- Steffen et al. (2011). *The Anthropocene: From Global Change to Planetary Stewardship*.
- Galaz et al. (2014). *Global Environmental Governance, Technology and Politics: The Anthropocene Gap. Preface*.
- Rocha et al. (2014). *Regime Shifts: What Are They and Why Do They Matter?*
- Rockström et al. (2009). *Planetary Boundaries: Exploring the Safe Operating Space for Humanity*.
- IPCC (2014). *Fifth Assessment Synthesis Report. Headline Statements*.
- Folke et al. (2011). *Reconnecting to the Biosphere*.
- Galaz et al. (2012). *Planetary Boundaries—Exploring the Challenges for Global Environmental Governance*.
- Galaz et al. (2014). *Connected Risks, Connected Solutions*.
- Westley et al. (2011). *Tipping Towards Sustainability: Emerging Pathways of Transformation*.
- Griggs et al. (2012). *Sustainable Development for People and Planet*.
- Medellín Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (2014). *Integrating Social-Ecological Resilience into the New Development Agenda*.

See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

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