

PhD Course *Cultural dimensions of sustainable development* (7, 5 credits)

How is “culture” integrated in the sustainability goals? Is it to be perceived as a unique dimension, perhaps a “fourth pillar”, or as a driver and enabler of sustainability? This course wants to increase the understanding of the role and meaning of culture in sustainable development. It offers a possibility to both explore the normative uses of culture in connection to sustainability discourse, and to use culture as a dimension through which understandings of social, economic, and environmental sustainability may appear in different contexts.

The course aims to discuss and examine what cultural perspectives on sustainable development can mean. Different definitions and uses of the word culture in the work with sustainable development at different levels are considered. Application of the concept of culture, which show how, for example, communities are built, how local knowledge is utilized, how resources are shared and how both material and intangible cultural heritage are maintained and developed, are discussed based on what implications this has for sustainable development.

The course provides ample scope for work with ethnographic methods and theories that can be applied to your own dissertation. The course includes conducting an independent analysis of cultural aspects of the problems and issues on which your dissertation is based.

Teaching is organized in the form of five one-day workshops which consist of lectures and seminars on:

- cultural perspectives on sustainable development
- ethnographic methods
- sharing economy/sharing culture, everyday practices and rituals
- local communities, food and commensality
- green cultural heritage
- material and intangible cultural heritage

The course ends with a student conference in which the participants present their course papers.

The course is interdisciplinary and the topics are relevant to several of the SDG:s including goal 5 (on gender equality), 8 (on decent working conditions and economic growth), 10 (on reducing inequality), 11 (on sustainable cities and communities) and 12 (on sustainable production and consumption)

The course starts 31 August and ends 5 October.

For more information please contact the course convenors: Håkan Jönsson, (ethnology, Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, and Department of Food Technology, Engineering and Nutrition, [hakan.jonsson@kultur.lu.se](mailto:hakan.jonsson@kultur.lu.se)) Karin Salomonsson, ethnology, Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, [karin.salomonsson@kultur.lu.se](mailto:karin.salomonsson@kultur.lu.se))