

LB0108 Agroecology Basics 15 HEC 2020

The course aims to provide students with basic and advanced knowledge and the ability to understand human-dominated ecosystems and their interaction/connectivity with the surrounding environment (natural and cultural), with the focus on agriculture systems.

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

- describe and critically analyse farming systems, including mutual interactions of socio-economical and biological components.
- demonstrate methodological skills in application of holistic and farming systems descriptions and analyses..

The course starts September 1st and ends on October 30th 2020

Teachers

Anders Kristoffersson, SLU (AK)
 Anna Hofny-Collins (EXT) (AC)
 Fredrik Fernkvist SLU (FF)
 Georg Carlsson, SLU (GC)
 Ellen Fall (Library)
 Laura Grenville-Briggs Didymus, SLU (LGBD)
 Leif Bengtsson SLU (LB)
 Åsa Ode, SLU (ÅO)
 Marco Tassin, SLU (MT)
 Mattias Larsson, SLU (ML)
 Linda-Maria Mårtensson, SLU (LME)
 Siri Kjellberg, LU (SK)
 Teun Dekker, SLU (TD)
 Torgny Östling, Nordbruk (EXT) (TÖ)
 Weronika Swiergiel, (EXT) (WS)
 Carolina Rodriguez Gonzalez (CRG)

Course administrators

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Course leaders

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The final mark will be based on the following due assignments:

- 1) introduction to Agroecology (pass with 3-5) (due September 10)
- 2) reflection on participatory approaches to research, development and extension and on the peanut model (pass with 3-5) (due September 23)
- 3) individual presentation on farm comparison through Gliessman level approach (pass/fail) (due October 6)
- 4) analysis and presentation of a farming system including a session as opponent (pass with 3-5) (to be submitted on-line before 3 pm on October 23)

compulsory assignment
 compulsory excursion

Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
36	31-Aug	Monday				
	1 Sept	Tuesday	09.15 -12.00 13:00-17:00	Reading Gliessman Chapter 1-2 and watching Tittonel, Altieri and La Via Campesina videos (as a preparation for the tomorrow's seminar) Presentation of the course by teachers, current view, levels and perspectives in agroecology prepare poster for presentations tomorrow	self study TD and MT	crafoord
	2	Wednesday	9.00-12.00 13.00-15.00 15.00-17.00	student presentations: 1 'slide' (picture of poster), 3 min max pp 2 min q&a - send mobile picture of your poster to Teun latest 23.59 Agroecology definition: seminar (+ group poster work with objectives) Individual work: reading literature and preparing Assignment 1	TD/RM TD	aula crafoord
	3	Thursday	09.15-12.00 13.15 -15.00	Agroecology - a Systemic Approach How to integrate definitions of Agroecology into the introduction of the final assignment (Assignment 1) Systems Thinking and how to make a Rich Picture	AHC/TD AHC/TD	aula crafoord
	4	Friday	09:00-12:00 13:00-14.00 14:30-17.30	How to write a scientific report Presentation of a research project by Advait. Introduction in afternoon activities Farming activity at Alnarp (meeting at Växtskyddsvägen 3, Alnarp)	TD TD/RM TD/RM	crafoord crafoord

Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
37	7 Sept	Monday	09.15-12.00 13.15-17.00	Introduction to participatory approaches to RD&E Common Tools used in Participatory RD&E	AHC AHC	aula aula
	8	Tuesday	09.15-12.00 13.15-16.00	Exercises Participatory RD&E Exercises Participatory RD&E Read Porcel et al.2015 and 2018 and Campbell et al. 2017 (preparation for Friday)	AHC AHC	myllan myllan
	9	Wednesday	9:15-13:00 14:00-17:00	The Peanut Model and other sustainability assessment models Working on Assignment 1 + Read Gliessman Chapter 3-5	TD/MT/AHC -	articum 2
	10	Thursday	09:15-15:00 14.30-17.30	Group dynamic and Group formation for e-cases and for the farm excursion Presentation (ppt) of Assignment 1 (7 min + 3 discussion) (obligatory) "What is Agroecology?" Hand in the 1 page text by loading it on your Canvas page before 18:00 (Assignment 1)	AK TD	myllan
	11	Friday	13:15-17:00	E-cases (Denmark, Ethiopia, Sweden) introduction to group assignment & selection of E-cases per group	MT (video), TD	crafoord

Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
38	14	Monday	9.15-12.00 13.15-17.30	Literature reading: E-cases Uganda and Nicaragua marco farm (1h) - Agroecology in practice: "The Permaculture Orchard: beyond organic" + follow-up discussion (2h)	- MT TD/RM	aula
	15	Tuesday	09.15-12.00	E-cases report (group writing)	-	
			13.15 -17.00	E-cases report (group writing)	-	

	16	Wednesday	09.15-12.00	Preparation of PRA tools to be used in the farm excursion (Semi-structured interview, time-line, transect, flow diagram, ...)	-	-
			13.15 - 17.00	Preparation of PRA tools to be used in the farm excursion (Semi-structured interview, time-line, transect, flow diagram, ...) Read Porcel et al.2015 and 2018 and Campbell et al. 2017 (preparation for Friday pm)	-	-
	17	Thursday	08.30 -12.00	Visit to the farm "Alnarp egendom"	TD/RM	zoom
			13.15-15.00	Search and cite - Search strategies, manage your references and avoid plagiarism, tools and help options from the SLU library https://slu-se.zoom.us/j/68601394937	KBE/AO	zoom
	18	Friday	9.15-12:00	group presentation e-cases	TD/RM	myllan
			13.00-16.30	Agroecology in practice from a natural science perspective: the apple case study	MT/TD	zoom
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
39	21	Monday	9.15-12:00	Farm e excursions:and interviews	TD/RM	zoom
			13.00-17.00		TD/RM	zoom
22	Tuesday		9:00-12.00	Assignment 2: Work up the farm excursion through preparation of a written (1) reflection on RD&E tools used during farm visit and (2) peanut model of the farm. Max 3 (incl. peanut model) A4 pages font 12 to be handed in on September 23.	-	-
			13.15-16.00	1x1x1 cross-group sharing on (1) and (2) + presentation (10 min)	TD	myllan
23	Wednesday		9.15-12:00	Individual work on reflection RD&E and peanut model (Assignment 2)	-	-
			13.15-17:00	Read Gliessman Chapter 22-23 to prepare the group work of Friday	-	-
			23:59	Hand in on Canvas the written reflection on RD&E and on peanut model (Assignment 2)		
24	Thursday		09:00-17:00	Handson excursions in farming and value chain	TD/RM	various locations on or close to campus
				Gliesman 18-21		
25	Friday		09:00-13:00		TD/RM	various
			13.00-21:00	social cooking and dinner, guest speakers - interaction with other agroecology students		campus
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
40	28	Monday	09.15 -12.00	Cropping system ecology	CRG-GC,	crafoord
			13.15-17.00	Assignment 3: Preparation of the presentation and a 2 pages report of the group work on farm comparison through Gliessman level approach	-	-
29	Tuesday		8:45-12:00			
			13:15-17:00	Landscape ecology	ML	crafoord
30	Wednesday		10.15 -12.00	literature reading in preparation of Ness/Economics lecture		
			13.15-17.00	Read Gliessman 14-17	-	-
1 Oct	Thursday		09.00 -12.00	Sustainability assessment and life-cycle assessments	barry ness	myllan
			13:15-16:00	Economics, CAP, WTO, and circular bioeconomy	TBD/TD/RM	myllan
2	Friday		09.15 - 12.00	Biomes	ML	sunnan
			13.15-17.00	farming in Biomes	ML	crafoord
Reading ecology literature as preparation for seminar on Monday						
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
41	5	Monday	9:15-12:00	ecology seminar	Seminar/ML	aula
			13:15-15:00	Literature reading (Gliessman 24-26)		
6	Tuesday		9.15-12.00	Soil ecology and pests in soils	LGBD, LMM	zoom
			13.15-16:00			
7	Wednesday		9.15-12.00	A lecture from real life: Master in Agroecology	RM/TBD	crafoord
			13.00-16.00	Assignment 3: Group presentation on farm comparison through Gliessman level approach (20 min per group). Hand in the 2 pages in Canvas	TD	
8	Thursday		9.15-12.00	Literature reading (Swiergiel et al. 2017, 2019; Lowder et al. 2016) to prepare for tomorrow and Monday lectures.		
			13.15-17:00	read: Rosset&Torres: Rural Social Movements and Agroecology;+ Östling "Global Solidarity, Global Game" + Östling Chapter 1-5		
9	Friday		10.15 -12.00	A cultural-historical perspective on Swedish agriculture and agricultural policy	WS	aula
			13:15-15.15	Assignment 4: Individual assignment	-	-
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
42	12	Monday	10.15-12.00	Explanation of final assignment + english directions	TD	myllan
			13.15-17.00	Perspectives on agricultural development from the farmers movement - Via Campesina Sweden	WS/TÖ	zoom
13	Tuesday		9.15 - 12.00	Agroecology in practice: the case of small holders in Eastern Africa	TD	zoom
			13.15-16.00	Political Ecology	SK	crafoord
14	Wednesday		9.15 - 12.00	Assignment 4: Individual assignment		
			13.00-17.00	Assignment 4: Individual assignment		
15	Thursday		9.15 - 12.00	A MSc thesis in agroecology: tips and examples	RM	aulan
			13:15-17:00	Catchup slot for lectures These are moments for catching up with lectures cancelled earlier on		
16	Friday					Catch up time for lectures
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
43	19-23	Mo.Fri	9.00-17.00	Assignment 4: Individual assignment	-	-
	23	Friday	15:00	Individual assignment. Upload your individual 4th assignment to your Canvas room before 3 pm (after 3pm the highest possible mark will be a "pass=3") Check in advance how to upload your essay to avoid delays that may compromise your final mark.	-	-
Week	Date	Day	Time		Teacher	Place
44	26-28	Mon-Wedn	9.00-17.00	Peer review of the opponent assignment and preparation of the presentation	-	-
	29	Thursday	9.00-17.00	Oral presentation of individual assignment	TD/RM TD/RM	aula

30	Friday	9.00-12.00	Oral presentation of individual assignment wrapup	TD/RM TD/RM	crafoord