

COURSE SYLLABUS

Environmental Communication, 7.5 credits

Environmental Communication, 7.5 högskolepoäng

Course Code:	LECK13	Education Cycle:	First-cycle level
Confirmed:	May 22, 2025	Disciplinary domain:	Social sciences
Valid From:	Sep 01, 2025	Subject group:	Media and Communication Studies
		Specialised in:	G1F First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
		Main field of study:	Media and Communication Science

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

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

Knowledge and understanding

- explain different concepts, theories and perspectives within the research field of environmental communication
- recognise and describe different communication efforts to define, advocate for, and address environmental issues
- identify signs, tropes and symbols connected to environmental discourses

Skills and abilities

- apply visual literacy skills to analyse visual media representations of environmental issues
- develop and implement creative solutions for communicating environmental scientific concepts to non-scientific audiences
- apply theories and research related to environmental communication to understand everyday situations and solve communication problems

Judgement and approach

- reflect upon and discuss justice, privilege and culture as they relate to environmentalism
- critically reflect upon symbolic representations of the environment
- problematise how mass-mediated discourses shape our perception of the natural world and our ability to live sustainably within Earth's ecological parameters

Content

- Central concepts, theories and perspectives in environmental communication
- The social construction of nature
- Key environmental ideologies
- Non-western perspectives on environmental communication
- Environmental and social justice
- Storytelling for sustainability

Type of instruction

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and exercises performed individually and in groups.

A learning management system is used.

Students who have been admitted to and registered for a course have the right to receive instruction/supervision for the duration of the time period specified for the particular course instance to which they were accepted. After that, the right to receive instruction/supervision expires.

Language of instruction is in English.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and passed courses of at least 37,5 credits in Media and Communication Science or equivalent. Proof of English proficiency is required.

Examination and grades

The course is graded A, B, C, D, E, FX or F.

The grades A, B, C, D and E are all passing grades. For courses with more than one element of examination, students are given a final grade based on an overall assessment of all the elements included in the course. The final grade of the course is issued only when all elements of examination have been passed.

The examination is based on the intended learning outcomes.

The forms of examination are written group assignment, seminar and individual written assignment.

The examination must allow for students to be assessed on an individual basis. Further information concerning assessment of specific intended learning outcomes and grading criteria is provided at the beginning of the course.

To pass the course students must receive at least a passing grade on every assignment. The final course grade is determined by weighing the grades received on Written group assignment and Individual written assignment.

Registration of examination:

Name of the Test	Value	Grading
Written group assignment	2 credits	A/B/C/D/E/FX/F
Seminar	2 credits	G/U
Individual written assignment	3.5 credits	A/B/C/D/E/FX/F

Course evaluation

The instruction is followed up throughout the course. A course evaluation is conducted at the end of the course. A summary and comments are published in the learning management system. The evaluation constitutes a basis for future improvements to the course.

Other information

Students are guaranteed a minimum of three attempts to pass an examination, including the regular attempt.

If a student has failed the same examination three times, the student can request that the next attempt be graded by a new examiner. The decision to accept or reject such a request is made by the associate dean of education. A student may not make a second attempt at any examination already passed in order to receive a higher grade.

In case a course is terminated or significantly altered, examination according to the earlier syllabus shall be offered on at least two occasions in the course of one year after the termination/alteration.

The examiner has the right to give an adapted examination or let the student carry out the examination in an alternative way provided that the intended learning outcomes can be secured and that there are exceptional reasons for this, including the student's right to targeted study support.

Course literature

Please note that changes may be made to the reading list up until eight weeks before the start of the course.

Corbett, Julia B. (2006). *Communicating Nature: How We Create and Understand Environmental Messages*. Island Press. 368 p.

Leinaweaver, Jeff (2015). *Storytelling for sustainability: Deepening the case for change*. Routledge. 102 p.

Pezzullo, Phaedra C. & Cox, Robert (2022). *Environmental Communication and the Public Sphere* (6. ed.). SAGE. 392 p.

Articles and other literature of approximately 100 pages may be added.

Reference literature:

Bignell, Jonathan (2002). *Media semiotics: an introduction* (2. ed.). Manchester University Press.

Fischer, Daniel (Ed.) (2022). *Narrating Sustainability through Storytelling*. Taylor and Francis.

Maxwell, Richard, Raundalen, Jon & Vestberg, Nina Lager (Ed.) (2015). *Media and the ecological crisis*. Routledge.

Hansen, Anders & Machin, David (Ed.) (2015). *Visual environmental communication*. Routledge.

Citing Sources – How to Create Literature References

<http://ju.se/library/search--write/citing-sources---how-to-create-literature-references.html>

Sourcewise: A Student's Guide to Avoiding Plagiarism

Information about plagiarism at higher education institutions

Available in the learning management system