Module summary
Environmental and resource use problems (environmental pollution, potential exhaustion of resources, degradation of the global environment, human modification of nature and ecosystems), environmental awareness, environmental behaviour, environmental movements, global social and environmental change (economic globalisation, climate change, biodiversity reduction, land use change and urbanisation), nature protection, environmental policies and sustainable development

Description of learning outcomes for module

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MLO code</th>
<th>Student after module completion has the knowledge/ knows how to/is able to</th>
<th>Method of learning outcomes verification (form of completion)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social competence</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M_K001</td>
<td>student is able to argue individually and critically about global environmental problems in modern society (in the epoch of &quot;the anthropocene&quot;)</td>
<td>Activity during classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>M_W001</td>
<td>student understands the global problems of natural resource use (availability, scarcity, overuse, recycling)</td>
<td>Oral answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_W002</td>
<td>student understands the environmental problems in modern societies, in the contexts of social, political and economic action</td>
<td>Oral answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_W003</td>
<td>student understands local, regional or national resource use problems and their social and economic significance</td>
<td>Oral answer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Module card - Environmental sociology and social ecology: present environmental problems and global environmental change

### FLO matrix in relation to forms of classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MLO code</th>
<th>Student after module completion has the knowledge/ knows how to/is able to</th>
<th>Form of classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_K001</td>
<td>student is able to argue individually and critically about global environmental problems in modern society (in the epoch of “the anthropocene”)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_W001</td>
<td>student understands the global problems of natural resource use (availability, scarcity, overuse, recycling)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_W002</td>
<td>student understands the environmental problems in modern societies, in the contexts of social, political and economic action</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_W003</td>
<td>student understands local, regional or national resource use problems and their social and economic significance</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module content

#### Lectures

**Environmental sociology – history, main themes, approaches**

**Session 1**  
Introduction: Course themes, literature, forms of work  
Discussion: text 6 (Catton & Dunlap)

**Environmental sociology - main theories, perspectives, authors**

**Session 2**  
Discussion: text 4 (Beck)

**Present environmental problems – the heritage of industrial society**

**Session 3**  
Discussion: text 8 (Fischer-Kowalski)

**Working group presentation of text**

**Session 4**  
chapter 1 (Hannigan) + text 2, chapter 1 (Heinrichs and Gross) and discussion of the texts with the class
Module card - Environmental sociology and social ecology: present environmental problems and global environmental change

- **Working group presentation of text**
  - Session 5
  - 4 (Beck) + 5 (Burke) and discussion of the texts with the class

  **Social constructivism and critical environmental sociology**
  - Session 6
  - Discussion: text 1, chapter 6 (Hannigan)

  **Social ecology – history and development**
  - Session 7
  - Discussion: text 5 (Burke)

  **Social ecology – thematic profiles**
  - Session 8
  - Discussion: text 9 (Haberl et al)

- **Working group presentation of text**
  - Session 9
  - 13 (Martinez-Alier) + 16 (Rice) and discussion of the texts with the class

- **Working group presentation of text**
  - Session 10
  - 1, chapter 2 (Hannigan) + text 10 (Janssen & Anderies) and discussion of the texts with the class

  **Global environmental change – the anthropocene**
  - Session 11
  - Discussion: text 17 (Steffen et al)

  **Sustainable development – global scenarios**
  - Session 12
  - Discussion: text 3, chapter 8 (Great Transition Scenario) and chapter 9 (Fortress Word Scenario)

  **Outlook – social and environmental change in the 21st century**
  - Session 13
  - Discussion: text 19 (Young et al)

- **Working group presentation of text**
  - Session 14
  - 18 (Yanitsky) + 20 (Zielinska) and discussion of the texts with the class

- **Working group presentation of text. Course evaluation: discussion in class**
  - Session 15
  - 2, chapter 18 (Heinrichs) + text 11 (Lidskog et al) and discussion of the texts with the class

**Method of calculating the final grade**
The course is evaluated in the last session, in oral from (discussion in the class).

**Prerequisites and additional requirements**
The course is organized in lecture sessions (introductory lectures with short videos and subsequent discussion in the class) and (short presentations of texts from the course literature by working groups of students and discussion in the class).

From the students it is expected to participate in all sessions and to read the course literature.
individual, to be prepared for the discussions. The course does not include an examination.

Recommended literature and teaching resources

The literature used in the lectures, discussions and seminars includes English texts from environmental sociology, social ecology and neighbouring disciplines. The literature will be emailed (electronic copies) to the participants before the course.

(a) Books (selected chapters to read):

(b) Articles:

Scientific publications of module course instructors related to the topic of the module

Selected from last 10 years
Books
Individual author
Co-author, chapters in books
1. Bruckmeier, Karl: Environmental conflicts – towards theoretical analyses of social-ecological systems
Module card - Environmental sociology and social ecology: present environmental problems and global environmental change

1. Theme. Environmental sociology – history, main themes, approaches
- Origins and history: a new subdiscipline of sociology (since the 1970s, in USA, UK, France, Germany)
- Themes: environmental problems, environmental awareness, natural resources and resource use practices, environmental movements, environmental policy
Basic concepts, approaches and methods

2. Theme. Environmental sociology – main theories, perspectives, authors
- William Catton and Riley Dunlap: the HEP/NEP-paradigms
- Arthur Mol and Geert Spaargaren: ecological modernization and environmental movements
- Ulrich Beck and Anthony Giddens: risk society and reflexive modernisation
- Environmental sociology in Russia: Oleg Yanitsky, environmental movements
- Environmental sociology in Poland: Anetta Zielinska, management of protected areas

3. Theme. Present environmental problems – the heritage of industrial society
- Environmental pollution (of air, water, soils through industry and agriculture), human modification of ecosystems (agriculture, industry, settlement and urbanisation)
- Environmental awareness, value changes (“postmaterial values”) and changes of lifestyles, environmental movements (industrial countries, Southern countries – environmentalism of the poor)
- Risk society, reflexive modernization, ecological modernization as attempts to deal with environmental problems
- Poverty, population growth and development, tragedy of the commons, limits to growth (Malthusian questions)

4. Theme. Social constructivism and critical environmental sociology
Constructivism and realism in environmental sociology
- John Hannigan et al: social construction of nature
Critical theory of nature and society:
- Immanuel Wallerstein (World System Theory), Jason Moore (World Ecology), John B. Foster (Ecological Marxism)
- Joan Martinez-Alier (ecological distribution conflicts) and James Rice (unequal exchange): industrialized countries and “the global South”

5. Theme. Social ecology – history and development
- The broader field of interdisciplinary environmental social sciences: human, cultural, social, political ecology; environmental and ecological economics; environmental history; environmental anthropology
- Various traditions of social ecology (Bronfenbrenner – social psychology, Bookchin – eco anarchism)
- New social ecology: Austrian and German schools
- Theoretical perspectives: human and societal relations with nature; societal metabolism; colonization of nature; metabolic regimes

6. Theme. Social ecology – thematic profiles
Thematic profiles of social ecology – main themes
Theoretical research:
- Nature-society interaction
- Social-ecological systems
Empirical research:
- Food security and food sovereignty, global scenarios
- Ecosystem services

7. Theme. Global environmental change – the Anthropocene
Global environmental change:
- Global warming/anthropogenic climate change, biodiversity reduction, land use change and urbanization
- Pollution of the oceans
- Theory of the anthropocene

8. Theme. Sustainable development – global scenarios
- Sustainable development: discourse and concepts
- Sustainable development: global scenarios
- Sustainability and resilience of social-ecological systems
- Social-ecological transformation and the future global society

9. Theme. Outlook – social and environmental change in the 21st century
- Global warming and sea level rise
- Climate change: conflicts or adaptation
- “Green growth”, limits to growth, degrowth
- Global collapse or sustainability transformation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student activity form</th>
<th>Student workload</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in lectures</td>
<td>30 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for classes</td>
<td>30 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realization of independently performed tasks</td>
<td>40 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary student workload</td>
<td>100 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module ECTS credits</td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
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