

Guidance for sensorship – HGO4203 spring 2023

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Exam:

Research paper, where the students choose theme, in dialogue with the course coordinator and the internship host (if the student has chosen an internship option)

Description of course:

This course aims to explore challenges, transformations and policies related to urban sustainability. Particular emphasis is placed on the social, cultural and spatial aspects of these challenges and policies. The course involves the in-depth analysis of traditional and contemporary theories about urban sustainability and policy transformations. The course relates to urbanization and urbanism as a global process, and includes literature, insights and perspectives from different parts of the world, including the global south. The main themes covered by the course are:

- Urban sustainability challenges (emissions, energy, climate and inequality)
- Urban structural transformations (urbanization, land use, infrastructures, energy, spaces and flows)
- Transition in urban practices and cultures (social world views, life styles, practices, institutions and path dependencies)
- Urban policy transformations (policies, planning and co-creation, global, national and local)

The course offers two study options:

1. Internship-based option (available only for students with admission to the master's programme in Human Geography)
2. Desk study or academic option (open for students of relevant master's degrees programmes).

The research paper:

The research paper should address a research question related to two of the four themes of the course. The empirical basis for the paper may be (i) collected data or information for the academic option, or (ii) experience and information gathered during internship for the internship option. The course coordinator has assessed and approved the research question and the empirical basis for the paper within a set deadline, and the students have received individual supervision. The literature list may be based on the list of recommended readings and other literature. Two examples of previously submitted papers have been available for guidance (one for each study option).

The expected length of the research paper is 5000 words (plus notes/reference list) for the academic option and 4000 words (plus notes/reference list) for the internship option, using 12 point letter size and a spacing of lines 1 ½. Students may write in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish or English.