

Governing Environmental Risks in the Baltic Sea: Multidisciplinary Perspectives and Approaches

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2010

**(APPLY BY CONTACTING COURSE
COORDINATOR – BELOW)**

This course will focus on multidisciplinary perspectives on the study of environmental problems in general and the Ecosystem Approach to Management (EAM) in particular. From these standpoints the main objectives will be to (a) study how major environmental risks to the ecological integrity of the Baltic Sea are perceived and managed today, (b) problematize how the EAM could contribute to a deeper understanding of major environmental hazards, (c) analyse how experiences from risk management could be shared between different issue-areas, (d) discuss policy alternatives in relation to improved risk governance and (e) explore how risk communication between on the one hand scientific experts and on the other practitioners, administrators, stakeholders and the public could be enhanced. This course will benefit from findings in the research project Risk Governance (www.sh.se/riskgov), funded by BONUS EEIG (www.bonusportal.org).

Curriculum

Week 1-2 Students are instructed via distance learning tools available at Södertörn University. They will be instructed to (a) study targeted written, and possibly oral, lectures, (b) read course literature, (c) hand in written assignments and (d) make practical preparations for the upcoming field studies and group assignments in week 3.

Week 3 Lectures, seminars and field excursions in the area surrounding Askö Marine Science Laboratory. Lectures and group assignments primarily aimed at improved understanding of multidisciplinary perspectives on environmental risk governance and management.

Week 4-5. Group assignments are finalized via Södertörn distance learning tools and handed in to the course coordinator. A completed, individual take home exam is handed in to the course administrator before the end of week 5.

Course literature Working papers of the project groups will to a considerable extent be used as course literature to ensure a high degree of relevance. Apart from this, the latest literature on risk governance in combination with research articles on (a) RISKGOV case study areas, (b) risk management and (c) risk communication.

Dates and Location: August 16 – 22, 2010, at Askö Marine Laboratory – A marine field station located at the island of Askö in the Stockholm archipelago.

Host Department: Department of Life Sciences, Södertörn University, Stockholm.

Target Groups: PhD students enrolled in program areas environmental science, environmental policy, environmental communication, ecology or equivalent. Our aim will be to compose an international group of students with varying backgrounds in order to stimulate multidisciplinary perspectives and learning. Limited possibilities of reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs are available for students from the Eastern Baltic Sea region.

Course Fee: The course is for free, but housing and food costs 150 Euro. For students from Central and Eastern Europe we offer a total of 500 Euro in grants. These 500 Euros will be evenly deduced from the course fee among eligible students who apply for these grants.

*More information/Application: Björn Hassler, Course Coordinator,
(bjorn.hassler@sh.se, +46 70 2085691). See also [Http://www.sh.se/riskgov](http://www.sh.se/riskgov)*