Course Curriculum for IMEN33  Strategic Environmental Development

1. General information
Course code: IMEN33
Course name: Applied Research Methods
Main field: Environmental Management and Policy
Master level, Advanced level A1F
Credits: 9 ECTS
Language of instruction: English
Approved by Utbildningsnämnd C, Lund University, Faculty of Engineering, 9 April 2014
Valid from Autumn semester 2014

2. General Description of the Course
Strategic Environmental Development is given as a compulsory course in the third semester of the IIIEE masters programme in Environmental Management and Policy. The course forms a real-life application of the knowledge and skills acquired at this stage of the programme and is centred around a task formulated by an external client.

3. Learning outcomes
On completion of the course the student shall have ability to:
• Apply sustainability concepts, tools and strategies in a real-world context;
• Systematically approach, analyse and intervene in a real-life complex system;
• Perform a task for professional client
• Show fundamental skills in professional conduct in performing a task for a client.
• Describe the steps involved in putting together a report for a non-academic audience.

4. Course content
The course is based on a real case and involves a site visit to gather and analyse information. A case could eg be to assess the development of a waste management/energy system in a city or region, or identify/assess business opportunities that incorporate environmental objectives. This requires a thorough understanding for how the complex system works in order to find ways in how to improve. After the selection of cases the work is divided into three distinct phases:

Preparations. This involves planning for the task, logistical set-up, gathering background information and benchmarking.

Site visit. Typically one week in duration and involving gathering of information, preliminary analysis and ditto presentation to the client.

Reporting. Back in Lund again and the report is finalised, presented and discussed.

The course allows the student to apply knowledge and skills in a real-life setting. This does not only prepare for a role as consultant, but also most importantly forces the student to place the environmental agenda in a broader context. The work thus involves training in practical analysis, reflection, and assisting practice.

5. Teaching and assessment
The course is designed as a group assignment with a preparatory phase in Lund, an on-site phase with the client and a reporting phase in Lund. Grading is based on assessment of the work in these phases and individual deviations from the group grade may occur.

The top grade will be rewarded to group members who can:
• demonstrate their thorough understanding of the situation studied and its related problem;
• make effective use of relevant knowledge (gained throughout the programme and during previous experiences) for the selection and formulation of appropriate suggestions as well as means for their realisation;
• combine his/her individual efforts properly with those of the fellow group members thereby assisting the quality assurance of the final outputs.
Grading scale
The following grades are used: Fail -3 – 4 – 5 (TH).

6. Prerequisites
Students should have completed the first two semesters of the EMP programme

7. Literature
The final reading list is issued by the Institute no later than five weeks before the course starts.