Course Curriculum for SASI01: Greening the Economy – lessons from Scandinavia

1. General information
Course code: SASI01
Course name: Greening the economy – lessons from Scandinavia
Main field: Environmental Management and Policy
Undergraduate level G1N
Credits: 7.5 ECTS
Language of instruction: English
Approved by Utbildningsnämnd C, Lund University, Faculty of Engineering, 15 April 2015
Valid from Autumn semester 2015

2. General Description of the Course
This course is a Special Area Studies course provided for exchange students, and regular students, within Lund University. Greening the Economy – lessons from Scandinavia is an interdisciplinary course that addresses sustainability, climate change and how to combine economic development with a healthy environment. The course will explore greening the economy on four levels – individual, business, city, and nation, and look at the relationships between these levels. Practical examples of the complexities and solutions across each level are discussed. A particular focus is placed on examples from Scandinavia, a pioneering place in advancing sustainability and combating climate change, and a unique starting point for learning about greening the economy.

3. Learning outcomes
On completion of the course the students shall be able to:

- Describe the basic challenges involved in implementation of the Green Economy
- Describe basic concepts, strategies and technologies that can enable the green economy
- Recognize how individual choices, business strategies, sustainable cities and national policies can promote or hinder greening the economy.

4. Course content
The course is comprised of five modules,

Introduction: what is a green economy and why is it important?
In the first module we discuss the key issues that a green economy seeks to address and the underlying concepts and definitions of a greener economy. The aim is to provide students with an understanding of the problems arising from the interaction of the economy and the environment; the concept of a green economy and related concepts and indicators.

Individual choices
In this module we discuss how individual choices can help or hinder progress towards a green economy. The aim is for students gain an understanding of patterns and levels of consumption; looking at theories of consumer behavior and the limitations of working with consumer choice in isolation.

Business strategies
This module focus on the business level and how companies and organisations choose strategies that can help transitions to a green economy. The aim is to provide students with an understanding of challenges for companies that want to take a lead in the transition to a greener economy; and of strategies for green business in different contexts.

Sustainable cities
In this module we will look at how planning and designing cities can help achieve a green economy and underpin sustainable development. The aim is that students should understand the role of cities in relation to experimentation, planning, collaboration and visions for a greener economy.
National policies
The final module focuses on how national governments can establish policies to promote a greener economy across the different levels discussed in this course. The aim is that students will gain an understanding of how national level policies affect cities, business, and individuals and be able to critically reflect upon the challenges for national level policies to influence other levels, including the international sphere.

5. Teaching and assessment
The course involves lectures, seminars, a paper and smaller assignments. Seminars are compulsory, and active participation required to pass the course. Grading is based on individual and group performance, via a written exam, and a paper.

Grading scale
Students are awarded one of the following grades: Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

6. Prerequisites
These courses belong to the First Cycle of the European Bologna system. This is equivalent to undergraduate/bachelor’s level in other systems. Apart from basic qualifications to study at undergraduate level no other prerequisites are required.

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