

Sustainable Development in Northern Europe B**Spring 2017****Location:** Copenhagen**Credits:** 3**Core Class:** Yes**Study Tour:** Germany**Major Disciplines:** Environmental Studies, Public Policy, and Sustainability**Faculty Member:** Inger Kærgaard, inger.kaergaard@dis.dk**Program Director:** Neringa Vendelbo, nb@dis.dk**Program Assistant:** Rachel Frei, rf@dis.dk**Mondays and Thursdays 8:30 – 9:50, Vestergade 10-A22**

Instructor: Inger Kærgaard holds a MSc in biology (University of Copenhagen, 2004). Focused on sustainability and conservation biology. Project manager at the University of Applied Sciences in Switzerland. One project in environmental education was funded by the EU, another project funded by the Swiss government involved in sustainable income generating activities for organic farmers in the Swiss Alps (2004-2006). Worked for various NGOs on forest protection and sustainable development in Thailand and Indonesia (2007 and 2010). Taught biology in an upper secondary school in Denmark and was also involved in an education program for sustainability education (2010-2013). Organized two photo exhibitions on forest issues. The exhibitions were supported by Danida and were based on qualitative research which Inger carried out in South East Asia (2009 and 2012). Inger is engaged with sustainability in many different ways: in 2014 she co-funded a bee-coop with funding from the Copenhagen Municipality, she has a share in a coop farm and also she has a share in a value-based bank. With DIS since 2014.

Description of course: Sustainable development has emerged as one of the most important discourses of the 21st century. It is a multi-dimensional concept, which aims to integrate environmental, social, and economic objectives, and no single academic discipline definitively addresses its problems or solutions. This course explores some of the key issues and themes of sustainable development, as well as pragmatic and practical strategies for promoting a more sustainable future.

The aims of the course are:

- To present a coherent and analytical framework for understanding the key ideas and issues informing the sustainability debate in the global north (especially from a European perspective);
- To examine the current and potential roles of government, civil society, and business in shaping a sustainable future;
- To provide a framework for understanding that links knowledge with practice and bridges the gap between the classroom and the outside world;
- To examine and evaluate real world strategies for change.

Learning objectives of the course: By the end of this course you will be able to ...

- Comprehend the underlying concepts, debates, and issues informing various actors, agencies, and activities working to realize sustainability goals;

- Show a critical awareness of the diverse and contested meanings of sustainable development ideas and practices;
- Identify a broad range of Danish and European stakeholders and activities currently shaping the sustainability agenda;
- Compare and contrast sustainability discourses and practices in Denmark and Europe with those in your home states;
- Locate a broad range of sources of information on sustainability, and be able to engage in critical and reflective thinking on a sustainability issue;
- Articulate your own values, positionality, and possible strategies for a sustainable future.
- Be prepared for leading roles in dealing with the challenges of the 21st Century.

Required texts: There will be reading from Susan Baker's "Sustainable Development" (2006), Tim Jackson's "Prosperity without Growth" (2009) and also from Jeffrey D. Sachs's "The Age of Sustainable Development" (2015). Reports from public institutions will also be included (for instance: "Good, Better, Best – The City of Copenhagen's Bicycle Strategy 2011-2025", CPH 2025 Climate Plan: A Green, Smart and carbon Neutral City (2012)). Furthermore scientific papers are included in the reading (for instance: Stichele, M.V., Mobilising the financial sector for a sustainable future (2015), Mont et al.(2014): Nudging - A tool for sustainable behavior?). Sometimes we will also read and discuss newspaper articles.

All will be in pdf form on canvas.

Approach to Teaching: Class sessions will combine lectures (including guest lecturers) and discussions, which examine theory, current debate, and case studies. The classroom experience will be enhanced by experiential learning, through cooperative learning methods, along with field studies and study tours. With such a broad topic, it is impossible to cover all issues and themes, therefore topics are selective rather than comprehensive.

Field studies:

Wednesday, March 15th, 8:30-12:30: Ladegårds Å project and the Pop-up farm. We will walk to Nørrebro, where a fireball will introduce us to an urban planning project. Åboulevarden lead to Copenhagen. Underneath it, there is a buried natural stream – this project is about making the stream natural flooding again: as cloudburst protection and as a healthy environment for city dwellers! Afterwards we will visit a small pop-farm also at Nørrebro. (TBC)

Wednesday, May 3rd, 13:00-17:00: TBA

Study tours:

Core Course week and study tours are an integral part of the core course as we take the classroom on the road and see how theory presented in the classroom is translated to practice in the field. You will travel with your classmates and DIS faculty/staff on two study tours; a short study tour during Core Course Week and a long study tour to a relevant European destination.

Expectations for study tours:

- Participate in all activities
- Engage in discussions, ask questions, and contribute to achieving the learning objectives
- Respect the destination, the speakers, DIS staff, and your fellow classmates
- Represent yourself, your home university, and DIS in a positive light

While on a program study tour DIS will provide hostel/hotel accommodation, transportation to/from the destination(s), approx. 2 meals per day and entrances, guides, and visits relevant to your area of study or the destination. You will receive a more detailed itinerary prior to departure. The dates for core course week, including short study tour, and your long study tour are below for your reference.

Core Course Week: February 6th – February 11th, 2017

Long Study tour to Germany: March 19th- March 24th, 2017

Travel policies:

You are required to travel with your group to the destination. If you have to deviate from the group travel plans, you need approval from the program director and the study tours office prior to departure. You are free to return to Copenhagen on your own if you choose to do so, but must stay with the group through the last visit and inform your study tour leaders of your plans in advance.

Short study tour to Malmö and Lund:

A three day tour to Malmö and Lund, Sweden. This former industrial shipyard has recently been regenerated into an attractive and sustainable residential and business district running on 100% renewable energy. We will be taking public transportation and eating at sustainable restaurants that serve organic or local food whenever possible. Past visits have included S:t Hansgården, an environmental education center, the Scandinavian Green Roof Institute, and Söderåsen National Park. You will develop a deeper insight into Sweden through exposure to the culture, history, and socioeconomic climate of the region and engage in your personal learning process outside the classroom by actively participating and challenging your current ideas and assumptions.

Long study tour to Hamburg & Berlin:

A six day tour to Hamburg and Berlin, Germany. Hamburg was the European Green city in 2011 and Germany is a world leader in greening the energy sector. We will be taking public transportation and eating at sustainable restaurants, whether they serve organic or local food, or run on renewable energy, whenever possible. When in Berlin, we will also go on an alternative walking or biking tour of the city. A goal of the tour is to compare and contrast sustainability discourses and practices in Europe with those in the USA. Students will be encouraged to examine the different approaches of mainstream and grassroots initiatives, as well as questions of scale, in implementing sustainable practices, and gain specific awareness of these issues in a German context. Specific visits have previously included national-level policy organizations, international NGOs, and examples of urban (re)development.

Evaluation (three written assignments):Case Studies 1 & 2:

Writing two case studies where the main idea is to embed learning of key concepts in a way that simulates a real-life Project Briefing – something that you may encounter in the world as an employee at NGOs, government, or think-tanks etc. Combined, these exercises are worth 40% of your total assessment.

The assignment is designed as a two-person, group exercise – so please feel free to pair-up with someone you are happy to work with. Tip: sometimes it can help to work with someone that has complementary skills and perspectives, which will enable you to produce even greater results!

You are free to choose any cases studies that you encounter from Denmark, Sweden, Germany, or any other location in Northern Europe.

The themes you choose are up to you – the key point is to be consistent across your case studies – to ensure that meaningful comparisons and lessons can be drawn between your case studies – so, please make sure the theme you choose is interesting and motivating for you to follow through on.

Case study 3/ Magazine Article:

The last assignment before the final exam is a positive future story writing exercise, where we pretend to have reached 2025. Imagination plays a huge role in changing world situations. If no one can imagine a change, it will not happen! You will work on a case you know well, maybe one of your first case studies and then you will look in the future!

Grading:

Case study 1 (Country A, 5 pages)	20 %
Case study 2 (Country B, 5 pages)	20 %
Magazine Article (future positive realistic story, 4 pages)	10 %
Written, sit-down final exam	25 %
Participation	25 %

Participation will be based on the following criteria:

- Attendance
- Active participation in class discussions
- Preparation for each class
- Reading all assigned texts
- On-time submission of all class assignments
- Active participation in study tours and field studies

To be eligible for a passing grade in this class you must complete all of the assigned work.

Disability and Resource Statement

Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Academic Support (acadsupp@dis.dk) to coordinate this. In order to receive accommodations, students should inform the instructor of approved DIS accommodations within the first two weeks of classes.

Policies

Attendance – You are expected to attend all DIS classes when scheduled. If you miss multiple classes the Director of Teaching and Learning, and the Director of Student Affairs will be notified and they will follow-up with you to make sure that all is well. Absences will jeopardize your grade and your standing at DIS. Allowances will be made in cases of illness, but in the case of multiple absences you will need to provide a doctor's note.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and Violating the Rules of an Assignment

DIS expects that students abide by the highest standards of intellectual honesty in all academic work. DIS assumes that all students do their own work and credit all work or thought taken from others. Academic dishonesty will result in a final course grade of "F" and can result in dismissal. The students' home universities will be notified. DIS reserves the right to request that written student assignments be turned in electronic form for submission to plagiarism detection software. See the *Academic Handbook* for more information, or ask your instructor if you have questions.

Laptop and phones policy: While most students find that taking notes by hand in class is quite sufficient for review purposes, computers in class are allowed note-taking purposes and for research session when encouraged by the instructor. However, you are asked not to use computers in class to write e-mails, connect to social media or other such activities, as this is quite disrespectful and distracting for me and other students. Failure to show this courtesy will be accounted for in your class participation grade. Phones are not to be used during class, field studies, or during visits when on study tour.

Schedule of classes, readings to be done for each class, and assignment due dates.

Session #	Date	Topic	Activities/Readings
Part I – Sustainable Development definition, political situation in Denmark, The Sustainability Goals and how to measure sustainable development			
1	Thursday, January 19	<p>Sustainability & Sustainable Development – an introduction to the course</p> <p>What is sustainability? Why sustainability – what is the problem? Definitions of sustainable development. Where do we stand now, and what should we aim at? Mapping sustainable development issues and challenges.</p>	Baker pp. 17 – 27
2	Monday, January 23	<p>Introduction to Denmark – where are you now and what is the general scene here?</p> <p>We have 9 different parties in the parliament, and with a minority government, the different parties have to compromise all the time.</p> <p>Class reps election.</p>	Reading: The Nordic Model: Local government, global competitiveness in Denmark, Finland, and Sweden.
3	Thursday, January 26	<p>Political and environmental entrepreneurship: The Alternative</p> <p>In 2015 Denmark had an election for the parliament and a new political party got 10 seats out of the 179. The Alternative stands for radical change into a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Guest lecture with Nilas Bay Foged from The Alternative Party.</p>	<p>Please read this article from the Guardian: http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/16/denmarks-green-alternative-organic-meat-free-and-poised-for-breakthrough</p> <p>And this one written by the head of the Alternative Party: https://medium.com/rsa-journal/a-friendly-revolution-845a8fbcc5c#.k2dt1xtdb</p> <p>And please also orientate yourself on the following webpages: http://en.alternativet.dk/</p>
4	Monday, January 30	The Sustainable Developments Goals	Sachs, J. "The Age of Sustainable Development" (2015). Pp 481-511

		Globally we now have very well define goals for sustainable development. Today we will explore these and discuss strength and weaknesses.	Please also have an overview here: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs
5	Thursday, February 2	<p>The Myth of Decoupling and how can we measure sustainable development?</p> <p>The Myth of Decoupling – can growth continue without negatively impacting the environment?</p> <p>Also todays lecture will investigate: How can human impact and sustainable development be measured? Alternatives to GDP will be explored!</p> <p>Preparation for Core Course Week, our Short Study Tour to Sweden, and think ahead to your first Case Study Assignment.</p>	<p>Tim Jackson (Ch5). 5: The myth of decoupling.</p> <p>UNDP: <i>The real wealth of nations</i> pp. 1-13, Abdullah: <i>The Happy Planet Index</i>, pp. 8- 12, 2012 Read also about GPI and pay attention to the critic of GDP: http://www.sustainwellbeing.net/gpi.html</p>

<p>Core Course Week September 12-17 Southern Sweden: Malmö, Lund, Röstånga</p>			
	Feb. 6-7	<p>Core Course Week: Copenhagen. <i>Final details will be posted on Canvas</i></p> <p>Monday: Urban Planning and treasure hunt in Copenhagen!</p> <p>Bicycle strategy of Copenhagen</p> <p>Tuesday: TBA In the afternoon we will visit a high tech start up company UniBio. UniBio are using bacterias to produce high quality proteins.</p>	<p>Readings for activities, guest lectures and treasure hunt visits – will be published on Canvas.</p> <p>Good, Better, Best – The City of Copenhagen’s Bicycle Strategy 2011-2025</p>
	Feb. 9-11	<p>Short Study Tour: Southern Sweden <i>Final details will be posted on Canvas</i></p>	See Canvas.

6	Monday, February 13	Short Study Tour Download & Case Study Planning. Review and embed our learning from CCW & SST to Sweden, plus planning for Case Study Assignment #1.	No new readings.
Part II – State of the art in Denmark			
7	Thursday, February 16	Recycling – how it is being done in Denmark Dansk Retursystem Copenhagen’s new waste separation system Recycling Stations This year Copenhagen Municipality has launched the idea of giving pizza boxes and cigarette butts a deposit! We will discuss pros and cons with the Danish system – is there limitation to recycling?	Your chance to practice Danish! http://www.dansk-retursystem.dk http://www.thelocal.dk/20160412/copenhagen-weighs-rubbish-deposit-plan
8	Monday, February 20	Plans on carbon neutrality and on fossil fuel free Denmark to become fossil fuel free by 2050. And Copenhagen becoming carbon neutral by 2025 What is the difference between the two goals?	CPH 2025 Climate Plan: A Green, Smart and carbon Neutral City (2012): http://kk.sites.itera.dk/apps/kk_public2/pdf/983_jkP0ekKMyD.pdf On Denmark becoming fossil fuel free by 2050: http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/could-denmark-be-fossil-fuel-free/ And: http://www.theecologist.org/News/news_analysis/2987345/denmark_reaching_its_goal_to_be_fossil_fuel_free_through_renewable_energy.html Copenhagens Plan: http://www.thelocal.dk/20150716/copenhagen-faces-bumpy-road-to-carbon-neutrality
9	Thursday, February 23	Energy supply – from oil crisis to renewable energy	Check out the energy map today: http://www.energinet.dk/EN/EI/Sider/Elsystemet-lige-nu.aspx

		<p>Wind energy in Denmark (today we will focus mainly on wind) Solar energy Biomass</p> <p>Hand in Case Study Assignment #1.</p>	<p>Go to report “Wind power to combat climate change”: https://www.energinet.dk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Engelske%20dokumenter/Klimaogmiljo/Wind%20power%20magazine.pdf Read pages: 14-15, 18-19, 26-27, 30-31, 33, 46-47</p>
Part III – Global perspectives: Biodiversity, forest, climate change and food systems			
10	Monday, March 6	<p>Forests and biodiversity- a planet in crises Why do we need other species? What is the different between nature and natural resources? New challenges has come with the increased focus on biomass fuel from forest as a so-called sustainable energy source</p>	<p>Visit my web page: www.forestsinyourpocket.org/en/fotoudstilling/ Biomass for heat and power: from 7- 14</p>
11	Thursday March 9	<p>Food systems: Denmark, India and Brazil Today we will get around different perspectives on food: The perspective of Indian farmers on the global food situation, Danish Agriculture and Agroforestry from Brazil.</p> <p>You will do small presentations and moderate discussions!</p>	<p>Shiva, Vandana, Staying Alive. Watch the documentary ReDane: https://vimeo.com/82118155 Is Denmark going 100 % organic?: http://ecowatch.com/2016/01/30/denmark-organic-food/ Agroforestry in Brazil: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=gSPNRu4ZPvE&app=desktop</p>
12	Monday, March 13	The Paris Agreement and Planetary boundaries	TBA
	Wednesday Marts 15 (IEW Week)	<p>Field Study; 8:30 to 12:30. We will walk to Nørrebro, where a fireball will introduce us to an urban planning project. Åboulevarden lead to Copenhagen. Underneath it, there is a buried natural stream – this project is about making the stream natural flooding again: as cloudburst</p>	<p>Meeting point in front of McDonalds at Nørreport at 8:30. From here we will walk to Nørrebro.</p>

		<p>protection and as a healthy environment for city dwellers! Afterwards we will visit a small pop-farm also at Nørrebro. TBC</p>	
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<p>Part IV – Sustainable possibilities and path ways</p>			
13	<p>Thursday, March 16</p>	<p>Big Companies – Fall of giants? 1. Sustainability transitions: are big companies doing enough? 2. Do we need big companies?</p> <p>Guest lecture by Michael Townsend, Founder & CEO, Earthshine – an international consultancy/think-tank focused on sustainable business and economic transformation.</p>	<p>Getting Over Peak Delusion: http://www.edie.net/library/Getting-over-peak-delusion--Four-strategies-for-sustainable-prosperity-within-planetary-boundaries/6707</p> <p>Turning a Profit While Doing Good: Aligning Sustainability with Corporate Performance http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2014/12/12-sustainability-corporate-performance-profit-serafeim/serafeim.pdf</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">March 19 – March 24 Long Study Tour – Germany: Hamburg and Berlin</p>			
14	<p>Monday, March 27</p>	<p>Wrap up of long study tour! We will recap and discuss the major findings from last weeks long study tour. And you will find your partner for Case study 2.</p>	<p>No readings.</p>
15	<p>Thursday, March 30</p>	<p>Banking with focus on sustainability</p>	<p>Find out what your bank is investing in! If possible!</p>

		<p>Value based banking is increasing. In Denmark we have the Coop Banking Merkur bank.</p> <p>The power of banks is relatively in large, therefor many different approaches are working to increase sustainability into banking!</p> <p>Hand in Case Study Assignment #2 before 23.59.</p>	<p>Visit the following banks web pages: https://www.merkur.dk/om-merkur/english/ http://www.gabv.org/</p> <p>Stichele, M.V., Mobilising the financial sector for a sustainable future (2015) pp 18-30.</p> <p>Hopkins R. 21 Stories of Transition frpm page 31-36:The rise of transition currencies.</p>
16	Monday, April 3	<p>How can people change habits? Nudging and the personal behavior Politicians and Supermarkets can use nudging to change people’s consumption behavior. We will discuss pros and cons about using nudging on the road to a more sustainable world.</p>	<p>Mont et al.(2014): Nudging - A tool for sustainable behavior? (page 1-27)</p>
17	Thursday, April 6	<p>Art and behavioral change towards sustainable development What can artists and pieces of art do to impact and change our behavior?</p> <p>We will discuss some present examples of artists who are engaging with the environmnet: Olafur Eliasson, Kultivator, and Nance Klehm.</p>	<p>Bonnie Fortune (2014), Art and Ecology the Nordic Landscape – an Edge Effect.</p>
18	Monday, April 10	<p>Stories to inspire change Some claim that if you repeat something enough times, it becomes a defining truth. Today we will talk about the power of story telling. And see if we can get to a new story....</p> <p>Hand in Magazine Article based on a possible positive story about year 2030.</p>	<p>Doyle Canning & Patrick Reinsborough (2009): Re:Imagining Change, An Introduction to Story-based Strategy. Read 1-26.</p> <p>Charles Eisenstein TBA</p>
April 12- 17 Travel Break			

	Wednesday May 3	Field Study Visit; 13:00 – 17:00 TBA Reflections, discussions, and conclusions Suggestions for the course development	No reading
Final Exam: Tuesday May 9th (15-17.00) Location: TBA			

Schedule is subject to change if necessary with as much notice as possible.