

Advanced Study Course: Natural Resources and Geopolitics

About the course

subject	Global Studies / Internationale udviklingsstudier / International Public Administration and Politics / Politik / Politik og forvaltning
activitytype	master course
Teaching language	English
Registration	Registration through stads self-service within the announced registration period, as you can see on the Studyadministration homepage . When registering for courses, please be aware of the potential conflicts between courses or exam dates on courses. The planning of course activities at Roskilde University is based on the recommended study programs, which do not overlap. However, if you choose optional courses and/or study plans that goes beyond the recommended study programs, an overlap of lectures or exam da
Detailed description of content	Natural resource extraction and geopolitics: resources, extraction and conflict Academic focus. The demand for and competition over natural resources have emerged as key topics both in resource-rich developing countries, and resource-consuming developed countries. Developments around land-grabbing, natural resource investments, renewable energy, sustainability, and climate change have become deeply entangled with the appetite for resources. They have meant that traditional geopolitical issues re-emerge in the form of struggles to protect and control resources and the environment as leading nation states and transnational companies intensify searches for and claims over potentially resource-rich areas. At the same time however, a new parallel institutional geopolitical architecture has also emerged that slowly but steadily manifests itself by trying to tame, control, govern and set standards for the regulation, extraction, and use of funds from scarce resources, and which impacts on the governance of land, investments and climate, often in the name of sustainability. This advanced study seminar takes stock of current debates within political economy and political ecology around natural resource extraction and governance. It traces the historical roots of academic debates, arguments, explanations, and ontologies underpinning natural resource governance. We examine emerging trends around climate change, renewables, natural resource investments, resource conflicts, corporate social responsibility, the role of new institutional geopolitical actors for regulation and standard setting, and provides examples of localised resource governance The course is organised around three dimensions: Gold and regulation; Renewables and green transitions; Investments, land, and rights. Expected Course Structure: 1. Introduction I: Why is natural resource extraction so contested? 2. Introduction II: New ways of understanding geopolitics: governance of natural resources beyond the state centric model 3. Theme 1a: Gold and regulation in SSA: an overview 4. Theme 1b: Illegal extraction of gold (Ghana) 5. Theme 1c: Governing the use of revenues from extractive resources: challenges and opportunities (Ghana) 6. Theme 2a: Investments, land, and rights: a theoretical approach 7. Theme 2b: Mining investments and how they fail (Peru) 8. Theme 2c: Oil and Gas investments: Debt and violence (Mozambique) 9. Theme 3a: Renewables and green transitions 10. Theme 3b: Renewable resources: what are they and how are they related to extraction? 11. Theme 3c: Socio-economic risks: Wind energy and conflict Lake Tukana windmill investment and Sweden and Samish land 12. Discussion café with selected NGOs or visit to key institutions 13. Summary and exam preparation
Expected work effort (ECTS-declaration)	10 ECTS x 27 hours = 270 Estimated: 13 lectures x 2 = 26 hours; Group work = 40; Newspaper assignment + exam 1 = 78; Preparation 13 x 6 = 78; Exam 2 = 48; Total = 270 hours
Course material and Reading list	As background/core literature: Stuart Kirsch. 2014. Mining Capitalism: the relationship between Corporations and their critics. University of California Press (several chapters from the book will be

part of the curriculum) Peter Dicken (7 edition). 2015. Chapter 12: 'Making Holes in the Ground': The Extractive Industries. Pp. 395-422. In Peter Dicken, Global Shift: Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy. Sage. (background)

A full reading list will be provided consisting of a mixture of articles, reports, book chapters and other types of material that will be uploaded or stated on Moodle in good time before course start.

An additional reading list will also be uploaded on Moodle.

The pensum will be roughly 60 academic pages per lecture.

Evaluation-
and feedback
forms

There will be a mid-term evaluation of the course.

There will be feedback on group presentation.

There will be office hours for questions, as well as feedback on assignments after exams. Grades will be provided through eksamen.ruc.dk

For further details, see the study regulations and the course outline.

Administration
of exams

ISE Studyadministration (ise-studyadministration@ruc.dk)

Responsible
for the activity

Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)

ECTS

10

Learning
outcomes and
assessment
criteria

- Specialised knowledge and understanding of a particular topic within one of the three pillars in Global Studies
- Advanced knowledge of academic and methodological debates related to the subject
- Skills in selecting and critically applying relevant theories and methods
- Skills in choosing relevant theories in order to investigate a problem area
- Skills in communicating and discussing theories and empirical results
- Competences in assuming responsibility for and reflecting on own learning and that of fellow students by actively participating in group work, presentations and discussions
- Competences in critically, independently and creatively selecting and utilising academic literature relevant to a specific research question

Overall
content

The objective of the advanced study course is to provide the students with advanced knowledge and understanding within a specific research area covered by one of the three pillars in Global Studies: Global Politics, Global Sociology and Global Political Economy. At least two advanced study courses will be offered per semester. The courses offered will change every semester within the following subjects:

Global Politics:

- International public sector organisations and global governance
- Regionalisation and regional integration in international politics
- International security
- International law and human rights

Global Sociology:

- International Mobility and information flow
- International political movements and social change
- International civil society, law and defence
- Contentious identities and new global actors

Global Political Economy:

- Work and globalization
- Natural resources and geopolitics
- Trade, investment and global production networks
- International Financial Economics

Teaching and
working
methods

The courses are based on lectures, but will also include other teaching and working methods such as group work, exercises, student presentations, peer feedback and field trips or guest lectures as well as other practical activities.

Type of
activity

Elective course

Form of
examination
(p1)

Individual written portfolio.

The portfolio consists of 2 written products, that wholly or partially are developed during the course. For example, products can be exercise responses, speech papers for presentations, written feedback, reflection, written assignments. The preparation of the products may be subject to time limits.

The character limit: maximum 28,800 characters, including spaces.

The character limits include the cover, table of contents, bibliography, figures and other illustrations, but exclude any appendices.

The portfolio's specific products and the (if relevant) recommended size (character limit) for the individual products are made public on study.ruc.dk before the course begins.

The entire portfolio must be handed in at the same time.

The submission deadline will be public on study.ruc.dk before the course begins.

The assessment is individual and based on the entire portfolio.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Form of Re-examination
(p1)

Samme som ordinær eksamen

Exam code(s)

Exam code(s) : U40514

Course days:

Hold: 1

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 08-02-2022 08:15 til
08-02-2022 10:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 15-02-2022 08:15 til
15-02-2022 10:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 01-03-2022 08:15 til
01-03-2022 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

location 05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)

Teacher Paul Austin Stacey (pas@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time	08-03-2022 08:15 til 08-03-2022 10:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)
Teacher	Paul Austin Stacey (pas@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time	15-03-2022 08:15 til 15-03-2022 10:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)
Teacher	Paul Austin Stacey (pas@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time	22-03-2022 08:15 til 22-03-2022 10:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)
Teacher	Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time	29-03-2022 08:15 til 29-03-2022 10:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)
Teacher	Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time	19-04-2022 08:15 til 19-04-2022 10:00
forberedelsesnorm	ikke valgt
forberedelsesnorm D-VIP	ikke valgt
location	05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)
Teacher	Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 26-04-2022 08:15 til
26-04-2022 10:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 03-05-2022 08:15 til
03-05-2022 10:00

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 05-05-2022 10:15 til
05-05-2022 12:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

location 05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)

Teacher Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 17-05-2022 08:15 til
17-05-2022 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

location 07.1-008 - undervisningslokale (60)

Teacher Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)
Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 19-05-2022 10:15 til
19-05-2022 12:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

location 05.1-032 - teorirum 05.1 (65)

Teacher Peter Wilson Leys (plays@ruc.dk)
Lars Buur (lbuur@ruc.dk)

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics - Submission, portfolio (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 15-06-2022 10:00 til
15-06-2022 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

Natural Resources and Geo-Politics - Resubmission, portfolio (GS, IDS, IPAP, PF, POL)

time 15-08-2022 10:00 til
15-08-2022 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt