

Universities in Helsinki, Finland

www.helsinki.fi/summerschool

summer-school@helsinki.fi



HELSINKI SUMMER SCHOOL

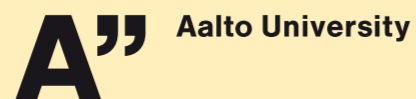
2010

August 3 to 19

Thinking Allowed

COURSES 2010

- Activity Theory and Formative Interventions
- Agriculture and Environment: Ecosystem Services
- Borders and Identities in Europe
- Business to Business Marketing
- Consumer Behavior
- Contemporary Nationalisms around the World
- Design and the City
- Developing Intercultural Competence
- Ecology and Management of Urban Green Space
- Environmental Services in Forest Management
- Interdisciplinary Product Development
- Introduction to Bioethics
- Introduction to Conceptual History
- Participatory GIS in Development Studies
- Profitable Customer Management
- Video in Research on Learning and Education
- Wood in Construction and Architecture



The Theatre Academy of Finland:



National Defence University:





HELSINKI
SUMMER SCHOOL

2010

August 3 to 19

Thinking Allowed

AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT: ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

6 ECTS

August 3 to 19

The state of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources are the foundations for human wellbeing. Sustainability of agricultural production will be claiming an ever increasing significance in a world of rapidly growing population, the dwindling resource base, and imperatives of conserving healthy environment and viable ecosystems. The role of natural processes and their utilisation for sustained production are and will be receiving increasing attention from practitioners, policy makers and public. It is on its way to become a cornerstone in the ecological intensification of production of food, fiber, and energy from land. These ecological processes, dependent in turn on the diversity of life, form a basis for ecosystem services.

Ecosystem services are the goods and services derived from natural and managed ecosystems upon which human welfare depends. Ecosystem services include highly diverse phenomena, from the production of food to recreational benefits. And the range of performance varies from microbes to landscapes. The challenges are therefore to recognise and value the flow of services so that agricultural land use can be better accommodated to the functioning of ecosystems. The crucial question is: Are we ready to address these challenges?

This course is designed to provide a multicultural and multidisciplinary group of Finnish and international students with tools for understanding and valuing ecosystem services pertaining to agricultural production. The course will demonstrate students how natural processes in ecosystems used for agriculture support the

continuous provisioning of food and other biomass, contribute to the purification of waters and soil, and create recreational and cultural experiences in farmland. On a practical level, the course will equip students with relevant skills in the field and in the lab. In addition, the course provides students with information on the environmental policies as well as agriculture-related research in Finland. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, fieldwork, exercises, study excursions, reading as well as individual and small group assignments. Learning will be facilitated by a problem based approach.

Why to attend this course?

- To learn to recognise a range of ecosystem services related to agricultural production
- To understand the currently available agronomic and technological advances which enhance the ecosystem services in agro-ecosystems
- To be able to apply ecological principles and agronomic knowledge to practical on-farm solutions; and the last but not the least,
- To acquire working skills in an intercultural, multilingual and interdisciplinary group

The course will be led by Dr Mika Kähkönen and Dr Iryna Herzon, both University Lecturers at the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry. Several guest lecturers – top experts in their specific fields – will be involved in the teaching.

Course prerequisites are basic studies in Agricultural, Environmental, or Soil Sciences, or other appropriate field. The course is intended for Master's and advanced level students, as well as professionals in agriculture or other related fields.

Organiser:



University of Helsinki
Department of Agricultural Sciences and Department
of Food and Environment Sciences
MENVI – Master's Degree Programme
in Environment and Natural Resources

HELSINKI SUMMER SCHOOL – THINKING ALLOWED
Helsinki Summer School is a three-week academic event organised every August by the universities in Helsinki, Finland. Each year we give advanced degree students from over 60 countries an unforgettable learning experience that combines high quality academics with a wide range of cultural and social activities. Our multi-disciplinary courses, all of which are taught in English, aim at stimulating thought and intellectual development in an open and diverse environment. As a city known for design, technology and its vibrant cultural life, Helsinki is sure to be the experience of a lifetime.

For further information, please visit our website at www.helsinki.fi/summerschool or contact us directly by email at summer-school@helsinki.fi.

COURSES 2010

- 1 Activity Theory and Formative Interventions
- 2 Agriculture and Environment: Ecosystem Services
- 3 Borders and Identities in Europe
- 4 Business to Business Marketing
- 5 Consumer Behavior
- 6 Contemporary Nationalisms around the World
- 7 Design and the City
- 8 Developing Intercultural Competence
- 9 Ecology and Management of Urban Green Space
- 10 Environmental Services in Forest Management
- 11 Interdisciplinary Product Development
- 12 Introduction to Bioethics
- 13 Introduction to Conceptual History
- 14 Participatory GIS in Development Studies
- 15 Profitable Customer Management
- 16 Video in Research on Learning and Education
- 17 Wood in Construction and Architecture