

Course content

This course deals with the question of how territorial (regional, national) economies change over time with particular attention to the intersection of industrial development with sustainability challenges and transitions as analysed in economic geography. A broad definition of 'sustainability' is applied that account for environmental, social and economic dimensions. The first part of this course introduces students to state-of-the-art theories and empirical research in economic geography that deals with systemic and evolutionary dynamics of territorial industrial change. to core concepts and theories in evolutionary economic geography, while the second part zooms in on the role of institutions and agency in territorial industrial change. The third part introduces complementary perspectives on technological and sociotechnical system change, while the fourth part brings these approaches together with particular attention to how regional industrial development in general and sustainability transitions in particular are shaped by interactions of global processes with place-specific resources, institutions and agency including but not limited to policy.

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~~discusses economic, social and environmental issues associated with evolutionary dynamics. The third part zooms in on the sustainability transition challenge, with particular attention to literature dealing with interactions of global processes with place-specific resources, institutions and policies.~~

Learning outcome

Knowledge

- evolutionary processes at play in territorial economies

- how these processes shape and are shaped by interactions between global and local forces
- economic, social and environmental sustainability challenges and theoretical perspectives on transitions
- Literature on sustainability transitions and green innovations in economic geography.

Skills

You will be able to:

- Provide a thorough account of and to discuss central concepts in economic geography such as evolution, institutions and systems
- Understand what industrial development paths are and factors that contribute to their extension, renewal or transformation
- Discuss the interrelatedness of economic, social and environmental sustainability challenges with industrial development paths

General competence

You will be able to:

- Reflect on sustainability assumptions made in research, policy and practice
- Conduct theoretically informed analysis in your master thesis project

Admission

Students who are admitted to study programmes at UiO must each semester register which courses and exams they wish to sign up for [in Studentweb](#).

If you are not already enrolled as a student at UiO, please see our information about [admission requirements and procedures](#).

This course is a part of the Master's program in Human Geography. Students with admission to other relevant master's degree programmes can apply for admission as [quest students](#).

[Master specialisation in didactics for social science in the Teacher Education Programme \(Lektorprogrammet\)](#) – please see the link for information regarding admission.

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Prerequisites

Recommended previous knowledge

The course builds upon [SGO2200 - Economic globalisation and regional development](#) and [SGO3200 - Environment and innovation](#).

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Overlapping courses

This course overlaps with the following courses: [SGO4601 - Economic geography: Institutions, evolution and sustainability transitions](#), [SGO4016 - Økonomisk geografi \(discontinued\)](#) and SGO312.

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Teaching

The teaching consists of lectures.

Examination

Three-day home exam

[Previous exams](#)

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Language of examination

The examination text is given in English. You may submit your response in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish or English.

Grading scale

Grades are awarded on a scale from A to F, where A is the best grade and F is a fail. Read more about [the grading system](#).

Explanations and appeals

- [Explanation of grades and appeals](#)

Resit an examination

If you are sick or have another valid reason for not attending the regular exam, we offer a [postponed exam](#) later in the same semester. See also our information about [resitting an exam](#).

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Withdrawal from an examination

It is possible to take the exam up to 3 times. If you [withdraw from the exam](#) after the deadline or during the exam, this will be counted as an examination attempt.

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Special examination arrangements

Application form, deadline and requirements for [special examination arrangements](#).

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Evaluation

The course is subject to continuous evaluation. At regular intervals we also ask students to participate in a more comprehensive evaluation.