Global challenges in an interdisciplinary subject context – challenges in Teacher Education course development

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An interdisciplinary team of lectures at the Teacher Education, Malmö University, are currently developing a new course on intercultural understanding, citizenship and sustainable development. Teacher students training for secondary and upper secondary school will take the compulsory course *Global challenges in a subject context, 9 ECTS*, during their third year, with start in the autumn 2013.

All our teacher training programs, pre-school to upper-secondary school, integrate subject area studies and teacher education. ESD is also integrated in all programs as the Swedish Act on Higher Education claims: Institutions of higher education shall promote sustainable development in their activities … (Chapter 5 §).

The students, a mixture of students from all subjects given in the two teacher training programs, will mainly focus on the areas of intercultural understanding, citizenship and sustainability in the context of the student's subject area during in the course. The learning activities will be among others participatory and inquire based learning. Student written articles in a web magazine and student presentations in a Conference at Malmö University will be the assessments. The new course concept is challenging current paradigms in Swedish teacher training. The participatory approaches and other challenges in developing the course will be presented.