

Sterling College

WORKING HANDS ♦ WORKING MINDS



HM/NS/SS 263: Sustainable Scandinavian Systems

May 19-30, 2008
3 Credits—11 Days

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Course Overview: This 3 credit Sterling College field study program entails travel to Scandinavia in May, 2008, to research environmental sustainability practices in Iceland, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. Site visits and activities include:

- Alternative energy facilities--solar collection, geothermal, bio-mass, wind-farms;
- Schools, cities, communities, “eco-villages,” and industries practicing and teaching environmental sustainability;
- NGOs and government agencies—meeting active members dedicated to developing green technologies and improving the environment;
- Seminars with international delegates on issues of organic agriculture and forestry.

Course Premise: The UN Commission on Environment and Development was founded in 1983, headed by then Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The Brundtland Commission essentially put the concept of “sustainable development” on the international agenda. The Rio Conference of 1992 and Johannesburg again in 2002 emphasized the need for a “Local Agenda 21,” a coordinated global effort to address the pressing environmental challenges of the 21st Century.

We at Sterling College believe fostering a responsible attitude toward sustaining our planet is an essential outcome as we engage in educating the next generation of student leaders. The Scandinavian countries have developed striking examples of local and national "systems thinking" practices that help protect the environment. We can benefit by studying these examples as models for improving our own North American ecological practices.

Estimated TRAVEL and FIELD COSTS: \$2,500
TUITION for non-Sterling students: \$1740; audit \$870
Travel, field, and tuition costs subject to change.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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