Department of Geography

Examination paper for GEOG3030 – Natural Resources Management

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Question 1 is to be answered by all candidates (counts 50%)

Question 1
In planning theory, different perspectives have different implications for how to handle specific management issues. The development of different planning perspectives may also be seen as a result of the debate between theory and practice the last 60 years.

a) Reflect on how rationality is incorporated into different planning traditions during the modern planning history (i.e. the last 60 years).

b) Regarding management of Dovre, natural science has played an important role regarding the management of reindeer and ecological restoration respectively. Natural science can be seen as the foundation of rationality in planning processes. Use the Dovre case, or a case of your choice, to discuss the role of science in different planning traditions.

In addition, answer either question 2, or question 3 (counts 50%)

Question 2
When describing political ecology one often talks about the contrast between political ecology and “apolitical” ecology.

a) Select a natural resource management conflict (such as management of the Dovre area) and discuss this conflict in relation to the differentiation between political ecology and “apolitical ecology”.

b) Regarding management of Dovre, science (as mentioned in question one) plays an important role. Use the perspectives from political ecology to problematize the role of natural science in management.

Question 3
Planning and management are processes where different courses of action are selected based on knowledge and values. Priorities between different values are important in natural resource management. This includes priorities between values:

- expressed in both monetary versus non-monetary terms,
- between values of direct use in the present situation versus future situations, and
- including questions of morality.

Use the management of Dovre, or a case of your choice, to discuss the role of values in a planning process, i.e. how to incorporate them, and what weight should be placed on them?

Both questions answered must receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass the examination.

BEST OF LUCK!