



# UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

## FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### **EU2220, Social Europe, 15,0 higher education credits**

Ett socialt Europa, 15.0 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **1. Confirmation**

The course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2011-05-05 and was last revised by Faculty of Social Sciences to be valid from 2011-09-01.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100 %

*Department:* Department of Political Science

#### **2. Position in the educational system**

The course Social Europe, 15 higher education credits, is given within the Masters programme in European Studies (two year programme) and is a semi-elective course. The course is also an optional course for the completion of the Master degree in Law. Students not enrolled in either of these programmes may attend this course as an independent course.

*Main field of studies*

European Studies

*Specialization*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **3. Entry requirements**

The requirement for admission to the course is a Bachelors degree with a minimum of 90 higher education credits in a social science discipline. Students at the Law programme are also eligible to apply to the course, after three years (180 higher education credits, equivalent of a bachelor degree). Priority will be given to applicants with 60 higher education credits in European Studies.

Proficiency in English

1. English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School, with a minimum of Passed mark
2. Alternatively, English proficiency equivalent to current minimum IELTS- or TOEFL-language test results published on [www.studera.nu](http://www.studera.nu).
3. Alternatively, A Bachelors degree from a university where English is the only language of instructions, in accordance with the recommendations in the latest edition of International Handbook of Universities.

#### 4. Course content

The course Social Europe seeks to consider the past, present, and future of Social Europe. The Course will focus on inter-disciplinary aspects of the European citizenship, i.e. rights and obligations, work, family, gender, identity, immigration and the future of European welfare states. The students will get in-depth knowledge of the diversity of European social policies, of their political background and of current welfare reforms.

The course addresses and problematizes European social policy and law. This provides the baseline for thematic elaborations on different social problems and future challenges for the EU, including analyses of the relation between the EU, the Council of Europe and the member states.

#### 5. Learning outcomes

##### *Knowledge and understanding*

After completion of the course the student is expected to:

- have in-depth knowledge of the judicial and political conditions for social policy-making in the European Union and Europe;
- have in-depth knowledge of the relation between the Council of Europe, EU and the European nation-states in social policy-making; and in what ways various governance methods have an impact on policy outcomes in selected thematic areas.

##### *Skills and abilities*

After completion of the course the student is expected to:

- have the ability to analyse specific social issues with regard to: interpretations of sustainability and various interests at stake; what role EU institutions, different member states, and labour market parties/lobby groups play in the policy process;
- have the ability to analyse and reflect on the legal development of EU social law in order to face challenges of contemporary society
- have the ability to present and argue for their own analytical findings orally and in writing;
- have the ability to formulate and argue for interesting research problems within the field of Social Policy and Law.

##### *Judgement and approach*

After completion of the course the student is expected to:

- have a good overview of current research on European social policy and law;
- be able to critically analyse European social policy and law-making and its outcomes.

#### 6. Literature

Literature will be permanent eight weeks before course start.

## **7. Assessment**

Students will be evaluated based on their performance on various written and oral assignments both individually and in group. A student who has failed an assignment twice has the right to change examiner, unless weighty arguments can be adduced. The application shall be sent to the board of the department and has to be in writing.

In cases where a course has been discontinued or major changes have been made a student should be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a time of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

## **8. Grading scale**

The grading scale comprises Fail (U), Pass (G), Pass with Distinction (VG).

To obtain the Pass grade the student must fulfill all the learning outcomes.

To obtain Pass with distinction the work of the student should show a very good ability to connect theoretical analyses to practical outcomes, a good, independent analytical ability and that written assignments fulfill high academic standards in terms of structure and language.

## **9. Course evaluation**

A written, anonymous course evaluation will be distributed to the students at the end of the course. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course.

## **10. Additional information**

Language of instruction: English.