



SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

GS2121 Global Studies: Theories and Perspectives, 15 higher education credits

Global Studies: Theories and Perspectives, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2016-06-07 and was last revised on 2016-06-07 by Department of Global Studies to be valid from 2016-06-08, autumn semester of 2016.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: School of Global Studies

Position in the educational system

The course is a single subject core course in the second cycle.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Global Studies (S2GLS)

Main field of studies

Global Studies

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

A bachelor's degree with a minimum of 30 higher education credits in a subject within the field of Global Studies, or equivalent competence. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS, or alternatively a bachelor's degree from an education held in English.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- explain relevant theoretical concepts on globalization processes, including their meaning, causes and consequences;
- account for current academic debates on globalization;

Skills and abilities

- apply theories of globalization processes to concrete, current examples;
- correctly use citations and references in written texts;
- build a written argument in a concise and concrete manner, within a given word limit;

Judgement and approach

- assess positive as well as negative implications of globalization;
- appraise theoretical and empirical studies on globalization.

Course content

In this course, students will be introduced to the concept of globalization. The reorganization of time and place and an increased global interconnectedness affect life prospects, environments, gender relations, livelihood, and conflict patterns all over the globe. To make sense of this process, the course is arranged by themes which capture the complexity of globalization and allow students to examine how, why and to what extent global processes impact different parts of the world. Students will be introduced to an up-to-date theoretical and conceptual inquiry on globalization from a range of perspectives within and across the social sciences and other applicable fields of knowledge. Social agency and the development of new social actors and identities under global conditions will be discussed, and students will be encouraged to consider how the “local” and the “global” are co-produced in new and unexpected configurations through processes of transformation. The course will also provide a critical perspective on the development of globalization as an analytical and empirical category, on the basis of a broad literature drawn from different disciplines and from examples of current research themes within the field of Global Studies. Students are encouraged to reflect critically upon the debates about global processes and the implications of different positions.

Form of teaching

The main forms of teaching are lectures and mandatory seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Examination consists of three parts:

1. Active participation in seminars (oral). Whilst this is assessed across all seminars, students will also be expected to chair one seminar (either alone or in pairs) during the course. Participation in seminars is graded with either Pass or Fail.
2. Three (3) individually written seminar papers (two of which will be graded with a maximum of ten points)
3. A take-home exam at the end of the course (individually written) (which will be graded with a maximum of 30 points)

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

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

To be awarded a Pass grade for the course requires a Pass grade for the seminars and 60% of the credit points for the seminar papers and take home exam. To be awarded Pass with Distinction for the course requires a Pass grade for the seminars and 85% of the credit points for the seminar papers and take home exam.

Course evaluation

A written course evaluation will be carried out at the end of the course. The results of the evaluation and possible changes to the course will be shared with the students who participated in the evaluation and to students participating in the course the next time it is given.