



## SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

### **GS2534 Global Studies: Master Thesis, 30 higher education credits**

Global Studies: Master Thesis, 30 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2007-11-05 and was last revised on 2014-10-16 by Department of Global Studies to be valid from 2014-10-16, spring semester of 2015.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100%

*Department:* School of Global Studies

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course is part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Global Studies

*Main field of studies*

Global Studies

*Specialization*

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

#### **Entry requirements**

To be eligible for the course, *Global Studies: Master Thesis*, two completed core courses in the second cycle in global studies, two completed in depth courses in the second cycle in global studies, and the completion of the course *Research Design and Methods*, or the equivalent competence, is required. A good command of English is vital. Requirements are: Swedish Gymnasium Engelska B with at least a Pass mark, or a valid test of English as a foreign language, or alternatively a Bachelor's degree from an education held in English.

#### **Learning outcomes**

The aim of the module is to increase the capacity of the students to write and verbally argue scientifically and position themselves in relation to the ongoing debate concerning a particular scientific research problem. After completion of the module the student shall be able to:

#### *Knowledge and understanding*

- independently contribute to the development of knowledge within the field of global studies;
- analyse, critically reflect on and discuss ethical aspects of the research process and its results as well as analyse these aspects in relation to different kinds of academic texts;
- analyse, discuss, and critically reflect on the research process as a whole as well as its positive and negative aspects;

#### *Skills and abilities*

- creatively, critically and independently delimit and formulate a scientific problem;
- systematically, critically, and methodologically collect and compile data relevant to the research question;
- show the interlinkages between methodology and theory;
- show proficiency in academic writing;
- communicate research results, orally and in writing, in dialogue with different audiences, both in national and international contexts;
- give critical comments on scientific written work in a systematical, analytical and constructive way;

#### *Judgment and approach*

- argue analytically for the justification of the choice of method and delimitation of the scientific problem, as well as the theoretical approach.

#### **Course content**

Each student will learn how to conduct a qualified and scientific study within a given space of time. The assignment is to write a master thesis showing the student's capacity to critically and scientifically analyze a scientific problem within the field of global studies. The purpose of the master thesis is for the student to develop, exercise and demonstrate an expertise in the particular field of the thesis, as well as general scholarly competence. During the writing process you will have an advisor from whom you will receive advice and substantive guidance. The master thesis will be defended at a special seminar with participation of the examiner and the other graduate students. Students are also required to act opponent on another student's work.

**Form of teaching**

Students work individually on a research problem which they themselves have developed. During the course they receive individual guidance from their thesis advisor (20 hours). The course ends with a seminar in which each student defends their thesis, and also critiques the thesis of one of their peers.

*Language of instruction:* English

**Assessment**

Progress on the learning outcomes will be examined through the master thesis as well as the defense of this at a seminar chaired by an examiner. Part of the examination is also to comment on another student's master thesis.

A student who has failed the examination twice has the right to change examiner, unless weighty argument can be adduced. Application in written shall be sent to the board of the department. The number of examinations is limited to five occasions.

**Grades**

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

**Course evaluation**

The person/persons responsible for the course are required to ensure that student evaluations are regularly collected, communicated to the students and taken into account in the development of the course.