



## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **SK1136 Foreign Policy Analysis, 7.5 higher education credits**

Utrikespolitisk analys, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*First Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Political Science on 2014-06-19 and was last revised on 2017-06-20 to be valid from 2017-11-01, autumn semester of 2017.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100%

*Department:* Department of Political Science

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

The course is an in depth course in Political Science and given as an elective course in the Bachelor's Programme in Political Science and as a single subject course. The course is also given as a single subject course for exchange students.

*Main field of studies*

Political Science

*Specialization*

G2F, First Cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **Entry requirements**

The requirements for admission is a successful completion of a minimum of 60 credits, in Social sciences or equivalent. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B or equivalent.

#### **Learning outcomes**

A student who has passed the course will be able to:

*Knowledge and understanding*

- Give an account of the main determinants of foreign policy
- Define and describe foreign policy at different levels-of-analysis (individual, state, system)
- Use theoretical and methodological tools to compare foreign policy across cases
- Critically assess the role of the state in foreign policy and the rise of new non-state actors

#### *Skills and abilities*

- Independently and in group work present arguments and empirical research using actor-specific theories and concepts in Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA).
- Critically discuss the explanatory power of different theories of foreign policy
- Locate a research problem in the academic literature and write an academic paper in accordance with good academic practice, including proper citation technique and use of references
- Be able to orally and in writing express themselves well in English

#### *Judgement and approach*

- Scrutinize and critically assess in writing and orally your own and others assignments

### **Course content**

This course provides students with the tools to analyse, interpret and explain the dynamics of foreign policy in individual and comparative cases, as well as to relate foreign policy to broader international developments at the global level. Foreign policy decisions, processes and outcomes will be examined at different levels of analysis, ranging from the individual (perceptions and beliefs), the state (regime type, bureaucracy, public opinion) to the system level (balance of power and global governance). While the course is mainly focused on the foreign policy of states, we will also consider the rise of new non-state actors, like the European Union. The lectures will introduce students to the main theories and concepts of Foreign Policy Analysis, while the seminars will examine the foreign policy process and action in specific case studies.

### **Form of teaching**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

Students will be evaluated based on their performance on individual written and oral assignments. There are three forms of assessment on this course, which must be completed in order to receive a Pass. Students will be required to

1. Make an oral seminar presentation (1 credits)
2. Participate actively in seminars with a paper (3 credits)
3. Submit a written essay of 3 000 words at the end of the course (3.5 credits).

Seminar attendance is obligatory and students that fail to appear at a seminar must submit an extra written assignment in accordance with specific instructions.

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).

At least five occasions shall be offered the students to pass a course or part of a course (Chapter 6, Section 21 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. This may not be in conflict with Chapter 6 Section 21 of Higher Education Ordinance.

### **Grades**

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

To obtain the Pass grade, the student must receive a Pass on all the three forms of assessment (oral presentation, active seminar participation and written essay). To obtain Pass with Distinction for the entire course, a student must receive a High Pass on the written essay (VG) and Pass on the rest of the assessments. The student should show an excellent ability to connect FPA theories and concepts to empirical research findings that demonstrate high academic standards in terms of structure and language.

### **Course evaluation**

The students will be given the opportunity to do a course evaluation. The results of evaluation will be communicated both to previous and incoming students.

### **Additional information**

Students are recommended to have 60 hec in Social Sciences.