



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

SK1216 Delegation to the Executive: Dilemmas and Institutional solutions, 7.5 credits

Delegering av den verkställande makten: Dilemman och institutionella lösningar, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Political Science on 2019-01-25 to be valid from 2019-12-06, autumn semester of 2019.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Political Science

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Program in Political Science (S1STV)

Main field of studies

Political Science

Specialization

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

The requirement for admission is a minimum of 60 credits in social science, or equivalent.

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.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Explain fundamental theories of delegation, for example within the so-called principal-agent theory.
- Explain research literature dealing with delegation to executive power, for example, how power is transferred from parliament to government, the power governments and individual ministers have in different countries and what are the consequences.
- Explain what research design and what research methods are used to draw conclusions about delegation to executive power.

Competence and skills

- Be able to identify the consequences of delegation to executive power in theoretical terms.
- Be able to identify the consequences of delegation to executive power in practice using empirical examples.
- Be able to identify consequences for the conclusion of different research designs and research methods used in the course literature.
- Independently produce text in accordance with good academic practice, including proper citation technique and use of references.
- Communicate clearly and proficiently in English both orally and in writing.

Judgement and approach

- Evaluate and critically review theories of delegation.
- Evaluate and critically review research results from the comparative research on delegation to executive power.
- Evaluate and critically review the various research designs and research methods used in the course literature.
- From a reflective discussion of delegation to the executive power in different countries, describe potential effects of different power transmission institutions.

Course content

The course describes the basic problems that comes with delegating the power to the executive power. Its starting point is in the so-called principal agent theory but also raises criticism to this approach. More specifically, the course wants to answer questions such as: What problems comes with delegation? In principle, what are the solutions? What can never be solved?

Particularly noted in the course, is the various ways in which power can be handed over to executives, as well as the consequences this will have for cooperation, efficiency and policy by studying institutions for power transfer in different countries. Both more rationalistic perspectives and more institutional and historical perspectives are used to

understand how it looks in different countries as well as within supranational bodies such as the EU.

The primary aim of the course is to teach both rationalistic and institutional perspectives, compare them and apply the different theoretical perspectives to understand the causes and consequences of different ways of organizing delegation to the executive power.

Form of teaching

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course is assessed through written and oral assignments. The course has a written exam which is being examined on the seminars when the students defend their own work and do an opposition on an other student's work. Additional oral questions will be added when the students in the whole or half group discuss the insights and questions from the previous lecture.

Students can be asked to re-work graded assignments and re-submit them. If the student does not re-submit the reworked assignment on time, the student will be failed on the assignment.

A student who is not able to attend a compulsory part of the course can do an alternative assignment. The assignment will be described in the course guide.

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 grade Pass (G), the student's work must link theoretical analyzes to empirical outcomes, an independent analytical ability and that the written data complies with the basic academic requirements regarding structure and languages. To obtain the grade Pass with distinction (VG), the student's work should show a very good ability to link theoretical analyzes to empirical outcomes, a good independent analytical ability and that the written assignments meet high academic requirements in terms of structure and language.

To obtain the grade Pass (G) for the entire course, at least Pass is required in both written and oral assignments and attendance at all compulsory seminars.

To obtain the grade Pass with distinction (VG) on the whole course, at least Pass with distinction is required at the written assignments, at least the grade Pass at the oral assignments and attendance at all compulsory seminars.

Course evaluation

The student will be given the opportunity to do a course evaluation. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.