



## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **AG2500 Master Thesis for International Administration and Global Governance, 30 credits**

Master Thesis for International Administration and Global Governance, 30  
högskolepoäng  
*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2010-08-25 and was last revised on 2020-11-06 by Department of Political Science to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100%

*Department:* Department of Political Science

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

The course is given within the Master's Programme in International Administration and Global Governance (two year program) and is a compulsory thesis course.

#### *Main field of studies*

International Administration and Global Governance

#### *Specialization*

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

#### **Entry requirements**

The requirement for admission is completion of the courses AG2110 Theoretical and historical perspective on global governance (15 credits) and AG2120 International Administration and Policy (15 credits) and a semi-elective in-depth course (15 credits) and either the course SF2321 Applied Statistical Analysis (15 credits) or SF2322 Applied Quantitative Research Methods (15 credits) or SF2323 Applied Qualitative Research Methods, problems and design (15 credits) or SF2324 Introduction to Applied Research Design and Quantitative Research Methods for Social Scientists (15 credits) , 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**

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

#### *Knowledge and understanding*

- Understand and independently apply the requirements and standards of social science research in order to complete an original research project relevant to international administration and global governance;

#### *Competence and skills*

- Independently plan, carry out, and present a medium-scale research project that meets academic standards of reliability, validity, originality, organization and effective communication;
- Creatively, critically and independently identify, formulate and delimit an original scientific question of relevance to international administration and global governance,
- Creatively and independently select an appropriate methodological approach to answer a specified policy or social science question;
- Systematically and critically gather, compile empirical data and/or identify and evaluate existing empirical data, and determine whether the data are sufficient and appropriate to answer a research question and with what level of confidence;
- Communicate the results, orally and in writing, to different audiences, both in academic and policy contexts;
- Independently produce text in accordance with good academic practice, including proper citation technique and use of references

#### *Judgement and approach*

- Critically evaluate the reliability of conclusions and findings of academic research and policy evaluations;
- Identify and critically assess ethical issues related to research on human behaviour.

### **Course content**

Each student will formulate, plan and complete master's thesis in a given span of time. Writing the master's thesis will develop student's ability to plan and manage large projects, and collect and analyze social science data to answer an original research question of relevance to international administration and global governance. Each

student will receive support and substantive guidance from a thesis advisor. Students will present and defend the thesis at a final seminar, as well as act as a discussant on another student's thesis.

### **Form of teaching**

The form of teaching consists of a lecture and seminars. The lecture is an Introduction on How to Write a Thesis. And, subsequently, the students take part in three different seminars where they get feedback on the state of their research for the thesis. First, the students get feedback on a short (200-500) words on a preliminary abstract of their thesis (in December). Secondly, the students get feedback on a longer (500-1,500) words research proposal (in January). Third, the students, while writing their theses, can get feedback on specific problems they encounter while conducting their research (in April).

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

Progress on the learning outcomes will be evaluated through the master's thesis as well as performance at the compulsory final seminars, in which students both present and defend their own work as well as thoroughly and constructively evaluate and comment on another student's thesis.

Completion of examined assignments are permitted. If the student does not submit the completion on time, the student will be failed on the assignment.

A student who is not able to attend the compulsory seminars will be given the possibility to attend seminars on a later occasion.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

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 the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course

has ceased/been changed.

**Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). To obtain the Pass grade the student must fulfill all the learning outcomes. To obtain Pass with Distinction the thesis should excel on theoretical, methodological or empirical qualities.

**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.

**Additional information**

Additional costs in relation to the course are the responsibility of the student.

The Department of Political Science follows the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (UD) travel recommendations for travel abroad. This means that if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises against (all or unnecessary trips) travel to a specific country, region or city, that advice applies to all study-related trips. Hence, a student's thesis will not be examined if the student proceeds with data-collection or writing his/her thesis in a country/region/city that the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs advice against travel to, at the start of the course.