



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

EU2131 Central and Eastern Europe: fully European or the European other?, 15 credits

Central- och Östeuropa: helt europeiskt eller den europeiske andre?, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Political Science on 2013-05-31 and was last revised on 2020-03-13 to be valid from 2020-03-15, autumn semester of 2020.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Political Science

Position in the educational system

The course is given as an elective course within the Master's Program of European Studies and within the European Studies program. Students not enrolled in the programme may attend this course as an independent course if there are places available. The course is a core course in the second cycle.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) European Studies Program (S1EUR) and 2) Master's Programme in European Studies (S2EUS)

Main field of studies

European Studies

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

For admission to the course a minimum of 90 credits in completed and progressing courses, in one of the following subjects is required: European Studies Economic History, Business administration, History, History of Ideas, Human Geography, Economics, International Relations, Sociology Social Work, Political Science, Public Administration, Cultural Science, Philosophy, Religion, Linguistics, Literature, Languages or equivalent. Additional requirements are, 60 credits in completed courses

in other Social Science and Humanities subjects, 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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of past and present developments in the region of the Central and Eastern Europe, with regard to history, culture, economy and society
- Develop a critical judgment of key theories, principles and concepts drawn from inter-disciplinary field of Central and Eastern European studies

Competence and skills

- To conduct a literature review of the relevant research perspectives within the specifically defined thematic area.
- Independently identify and formulate research problems that can be studied empirically
- Prove the ability to communicate effectively in groups and with audiences at different levels (peer groups, academic staff, etc.) as well as present material individually and in group using audio-visual aids where appropriate
- 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

- Synthesize and critically evaluate sources and data drawn from a range of primary and secondary sources
- Orally and in writing scrutinize and critically assess your own and others assignments
- Have a good overview of the current research on the region and be able to identify areas for further research

Course content

With the collapse of communism in Central and Eastern Europe hopes were running high that the division of Europe into two parts, the West and the East, would finally

come to an end. Several decades later, the dual framing of Central and Eastern Europe as simultaneously in Europe and not yet European still remains. This interdisciplinary course highlights the historical, cultural, political and socio-economic perspectives on why this implicit opposition still persists. What is Central and East Europe? How were the concepts of Central and Eastern Europe historically constructed? What demarcations do they imply today? How is the concept of Europe used for “othering” central and eastern parts of Europe?

This course provides students with knowledge and skills on the Central and East Europe as a geopolitical region, its political, economic and social cleavages, as well as cultural and intellectual development historically and in our time. The course gives students specialisation and expertise to pursue careers in a variety of fields related to European studies.

Form of teaching

Teaching is conducted through lectures, literature seminars with written and oral components, and a final examination seminar.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course is examined through individually written literature reviews in the form of brief papers, active participation in compulsory seminars and an individual research plan.

Students will be evaluated based on their performance on various individual written and oral assignments.

It is not allowed to discuss answers and / or formulate answers to the assignments in collaboration with others. The assignments are to be carried out individually and if you cooperate with another student in an unauthorized way, it will be considered cheating.

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 is 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 Pass grade for the entire course, the student must obtain Pass grade on all individually written assignments and attend the compulsory seminars.

To obtain Pass with Distinction the student must obtain Pass with Distinction on the individual research plan and obtain Pass with Distinction on at least 60% of the literature reviews and obtain Pass grade on all other assignments.

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.