



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

SK1125 International Relations, 7.5 credits

Internationell politik, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Political Science on 2018-12-06 and was last revised on 2021-06-11 to be valid from 2021-08-30, autumn semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Political Science

Position in the educational system

The course is a compulsory course within the Bachelor's Program in Political Science. The course is also given as a single subject course. The course is also an elective course within the European Studies Program and the Program in Environmental Social Science. The course is a core course in political science.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SML), 2) European Studies Program (S1EUR), 3) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SMI) and 4) Program in Political Science (S1STV)

Main field of studies

Political Science

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe the basic elements of leading theories of international relations (IR)
- Describe the main traits of some central organizations and other actors in international relations
- Describe the main traits of the international system
- Describe the main traits of some central historical changes over time in the international system and its actors

Competence and skills

- Apply IR theories on current international phenomena
- Independently produce text in accordance with good academic practice, including proper citations techniques and proper use of references
- Communicate clearly and proficiently in Swedish, both verbally and in writing

Judgement and approach

Critically examine and assess international phenomena and approaches with the use of IR theories

Course content

The course presents and discusses international relations theories. These theories are also used to select, present, understand and explain historical and current international phenomena (such as war), developments (such as the emergence of human rights) and actors (such as the United Nations). The course also includes some instruction on academic writing.

Form of teaching

Instruction takes place through lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

Course work is assessed verbally and in writing. There are two written exams. Each time the course is offered, students have two opportunities to take each exam: one regular exam and one re-exam (make-up exam).

In addition to the written exams, there is one compulsory oral seminar assignment. If a student fails the oral assignment or does not participate actively in the seminar, additional work needs to be done to receive a passing grade. Students who cannot

participate in the seminar are offered an opportunity to make up the seminar.

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).

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 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.

Grades

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

The grading scale on the seminar assignment is simply Pass or Fail.

To receive the grade Pass on the course (7,5 credits), a student needs to have received the grade Pass on both written exams and the seminar assignment.

To receive the grade Pass with Distinction, a student needs to have received a Pass on the seminar assignment and a combined grade of Pass with Distinction on the two written exams. The scores on the two exams are combined, and the combined total determines whether the final grade is a Pass or Pass with Distinction.

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.