

Department of Political Science

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Analytical Perspectives and the Study of Power in the Social Sciences, in 15.0 Higher Education English Credits

Samhällsvetenskapliga analysinriktningar och studier av makt, på 15.0 ECTS credits

engelska

 Course code:
 SV7054

 Valid from:
 Autumn 2014

 Date of approval:
 2009-08-19

 Changed:
 2014-04-01

Department Department of Political Science

Main field: Political Science

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

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Head of the Department of Political Science, Stockholm University, 2009-08-19.

Date of latest revision, 2014-04-01

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A Bachelor of Arts Degree (180 ECTS credit points or the equivalent), with a major in political science.

Course structure

Examination codeNameHigher Education Credits7054Analytical Perspective and the Study of Power15

Course content

The aim of this course is to give students a deeper knowledge on a number of central analytical approaches to the study of politics, as well as a deeper knowledge on how power can be understood - both explicit and implicit - and studied with these analytical approaches as a basis. The students shall reach a deepened understanding of how various empirical studies are more or less characterized, or affected, by the choice of analytical approach. The central analytical approaches are: actor-oriented perspective, structuralism, post structuralism and normative theory.

Learning outcomes

1. Knowledge and Understanding

Upon completion of this course, the students are expected to be able to:

- •explain, illustrate and compare core components and assumptions characteristic of the central analytical approaches
- •relate the analytical approaches to theories of political power broadly-conceived as well as the interplay of power and norms in politics

2.Skills and Abilities

Upon completion of this course, the students are expected to be able to:

- •review and examine how the analytical approaches can be used to study political power broadly-conceived
- •identify and contrast the underlying theoretical assumptions of the analytical approaches to politics

3. Evaluation and Approach

Upon completion of this course, the students are expected to be able to:

- •critically assess the analytic approaches and the study of political power broadly-conceived with regard to their theoretical premises and underlying norms and their application in empirical research
- •develop and motivate scientifically one's own conclusions and arguments based on the analytical approaches

Education

The course includes both lectures and seminars of which some are compulsory. Information on how to supplement absence will be provided at the beginning of the course.

Forms of examination

Some of the teaching sessions are compulsory. Examinations will be continuingly through out the course and/or at the end of the course. Exams may be written or oral.

A seven steps grading scale is used for grading. A, B, C, D and E are degrees of a passed grade. F and Fx are degrees of a failed grade. It is possible for a student to supplement an examination if the obtained grade is Fx and information about this possibility is included in the provided course information. Upon being informed of the need for supplement by the examiner, the supplementary task must be submitted within five working days. If the examination supplement is accepted and has the character of supplementing a lack of understanding, minor misunderstanding, minor errors or too limited discussions for some part, the grade E will be applied. If the supplementary task is accepted and has the character of simple formality corrections, the grades A-E will be applied.

At the beginning of the course, grading criteria will be provided. Students who have failed the course twice have the right to request another examiner. This request should be addressed to the department unit that has appointed the examiner. A student that has passed an exam may not take part in a re-examination in order to obtain a higher grade

Interim

When this course is no longer offered or when its content has been significantly modified, the student has the right to be examined according to this syllabus once each semester during a period of three semesters

Misc

The laguage of instruction is English.

Required reading

*Ansolabhere, Stephen (2008): "Voters, Candidates and Parties" i Oxford Handbook of Political Economy, Oxford Handbooks Online

*Becker, Gary S. (1992): "The Economic Way of Looking at Life", Nobel Lecture December 9 1992 (20 s)

*Berger, Peter L. & Luckmann, Thomas (1966): The Social Construction of Reality: A Treatise in the Sociology

of Knowledge. New York: Penguin Books, s. 65-109 (44 s.)

*Bryson, Valerie (2004): "Marxism and feminism: Can the unhappy marriage be saved?", Journal of Political

Ideologies, vol 9 no 1, s 13-30 (17 s.)

*Butler, Judith (1993): "Bodies That Matter", kapitel 1 i Bodies That Matter: On the Discursive Limits of "Sex"

London: Routledge, s. 27-55. (28 s.)

*Downs, Anthony (1957): "An Economic Theory of Political Action in a Democracy," Journal of Political Economy, Vol. 65, No. 2: 135-150. (16 s).

*Durkheim, Émile (2006): Suicide: A Study in Sociology. London: Penguin. Kap. 1, s. 329-361 i del 3 (33 s.)

- *Essed, Philomena (2002): "Everyday Racism," i Goldberg, Theo & Solomos, John (eds.) A Companion to Racial and Ethnic Studies. Oxford, UK: Blackwell. (15 s.)
- *Finnemore, Martha (1996): National Interests in International Society. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, p. 1-33, 69-88 (52 s.)
- *Gauthier, David (1986): Morals by Agreement. Oxford: Oxford University Press (20 s.)
- *Gaventa, John (1982): Power and Powerlessness. Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley. Champaign, Illinois: Oxford University Press (77 s.)
- *Guzzini, Stefano (2005): "The Concept of Power: A Constructivist Analysis", Millennium: Journal of International Studies, vol. 33, no. 3, p. 495-521 (26 s.)
- *Hacking, Ian (1999): The Social Construction of What? Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, p. 1-34 (34 s.)
- *Hindmoor, Andrew (2005): Rational Choice. Basingstoke: Palgrave McMillan (37 s).
- *Howarth, David och Stavrakakis, Yannis (2000): "Introducing Discourse Theory", i D. Howarth, A.J. Norval
- och Y. Stavrakakis (red.), Discourse Theory and Political Analysis: Identities, Hegemonies and Social Change.

Manchester: Manchester University Press, s. 1-23. (22 s.)

- *McGowan, Kate (2006): "Structuralism and Semiotics", i S. Malpas och P. Wake (red.), The Routledge Companion to Critical Theory. London: Routledge, s. 3-13. (10 s.)
- *Miller, David (2013): Political Philosophy for Earthlings. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (24 s.)
- *Nietzsche, Friedrich (1873): "On Truth and Falsity in the Extra-Moral Sense." (ca 10 s.)
- *Nussbaum, Martha (2003): "Human Capabilities, Female Human Beings," in Johnathan Glover and Martha

Nussbaum., eds. Women, Culture, and Development: A Study of Human Capabilities. Oxford: Oxford Scholarship Online. (55 s.)

*Olson, Mancur (1969): The Logic of Collective Action. Public Goods and the Theory of Groups. Cambridge:

Harvard University Press. Introduction, kap 1 & 2 s 1-65. (66 s)

- *Ostrom, Elinor (1998): "A Behavioral Approach to the Rational Choice Theory of Collective Action," The American Political Science Review 92 (1): 1-22. (22 s.)
- *Rawls, John (1973): A Theory of Justice, Harvard University Press (36 s.)
- *Sayyid, Bobby och Zac, Lilian (1998): "Political Analysis in a World Without Foundations", i E. Scarbrough
- och E. Tanenbaum (red.), Research Strategies in the Social Sciences: A Guide to New Approaches. Oxford: Oxford University Press, s. 250-267. (17 s.)
- *Scanlon, Thomas (1998): What We Owe to Each Other. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University press s. 189-247 (66 sidor)
- *Searle, John R. (1995): The Construction of Social Reality. London: Penguin Books, p.1-30 (30 s.)
- *Sewell Jr., William (1992): "A Theory of Structure: Duality, Agency and Transformation," The American Journal of Sociology 98 (1): (29 s)
- *Smith, Anna Marie (1998): Laclau and Mouffe: The Radical Democratic Imaginary. London: Routledge, kapitel 3: "Subject Positions, Articulation and the Subversion of Essentialism", s. 84-116 och kapitel 5:

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"Power and Hegemony", s. 151-76 (57 s.).
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*Walzer, Michael (1987): "Interpretation and Social Criticism." Tanner Lectures (60 s.)

*Wendt, Alexander (1995): "Constructing International Politics", International Security, vol. 20, no. 1, p. 71-81 (10 s.)

*Yuval-Davis, Nira (2006): "Intersectionality and Feminist Politics", European Journal of Women's Studies, vol 13 no 3, p.193-209. (16 s.)

*Young, Iris Marion. 1990. "Socialist Feminism and the Limits of Dual Systems Theory" i Throwing Like a Girl and Other Essays. Bloomington &Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. s. 21-35. (14 s.)

*Zizek, Slavoj (2008 [1989]): "'Che vuoi?'", kapitel 3 i The Sublime Object of Ideology. London: Verso Books, s. 95-144. (49 s.)

Enstaka ytterligare artiklar kan tillkomma