

Syllabus

for course at first level

Democratisation and Human Rights in Latin America
Demokratisering och mänskliga rättigheter i Latinamerika

**7.5 Higher Education
Credits**
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	LA1106
Valid from:	Autumn 2012
Date of approval:	2012-04-04
Department	Department of Romance Studies and Classics
Main field:	Latin America Studies
Specialisation:	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus is confirmed by the Board of the Department of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies 2010-02-25.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Swedish B/Swedish as Second Language B, and English B, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1106	Democratisation and Human Rights in Latin America	7.5

Course content

The course comprises two thematic blocks. The first has a political science approach, with a focus on the democratic system and its institutions. The other has a legal sociological perspective, with a focus on the influence of social movements on the political and legal development. The course gives an introduction to the central discussions concerning democratization in Latin America, with an emphasis on political developments since the 1980s. The course regards democratization as mainly an institutional and legal sociological process of change (the social movements rights based struggle), but also includes its relation to economy and culture in the following areas:

- theories about democratic transitions and phases of consolidation
- state and civil society
- social movements
- legal pluralism
- women's rights
- globalization, democratization and citizenship

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course the student is expected to be able:

- to critically reason around the historical development and nature of Latin America's democratic traditions
- to account for the factors which according to the literature has historically promoted and restrained democracy in Latin America
- to describe, compare and evaluate prominent theories about Latin American democracy and democratization from the perspective of political science as well as legal sociology;

- to identify the different ways in which globalization has promoted and restrained democratic development in Latin America;
- to analyze different views on the relation between the struggle of the social movements for human rights and the character of the formal democratic institutions.

Education

Seminars and lectures. In the event of insufficient student numbers or lack of resources, teaching will take the form of tutorials or guided independent study.

Forms of examination

a. The examination will take the form of a written paper and a verbal presentation of this paper's main arguments. The student is required to reference (cited pages in the literature) the paper and is encouraged to present his/her own opinions and compare and contrast the arguments of the different authors. Absence from a seminar can be made up by a written paper.

b. Grading is in accordance with a seven scale grading system

A= excellent

B=very good

C= good

D=satisfactory

E=acceptable

Fx=unacceptable

F=completely unacceptable

c. The course's grading criteria is distributed at the start of the course.

d. In the event that a student has received grade Fx or F on an exam she/he is entitled to retake the examination four times to achieve a passing grade (E) as long as the course is given

Students who have received the grade Fx or F on an exam twice by the same examiner has the right to be examined by another examiner who is named for that purpose, if there are no extenuating circumstances. The decision related to this is taken by the board of the institution

Required reading

Böcker /Books

•Craske, Nikki & Molyneux, Maxine (2002): Gender and The Politics of Rights and Democracy in Latin America, Palgrave, Basingstoke.

•Garretón, Manuel Antonio (2003). Incomplete Democracy: Political Democratization in Chile and Latin America. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London.

•Santos, Boaventura de Sousa ed.(2007). Another Knowledge Is Possible – Beyond Northern Epistemologies, Vol. 3 Reinventing Social Emancipation: Toward New Manifestos, Verso, New York 2007.

•Santos, Boaventura de Sousa ed (2005). Democratizing Democracy – Beyond the Liberal Democratic Canon, Vol. 1 “Reinventing Social Emancipation: Toward New Manifestos”, Verso, New York 2005.

•Santos, Boaventura de Sousa (2006). The Rise of the Global Left – the World Social Forum and Beyond, Zed Books, New York 2006.

•Stahler-Sholk, Richard & Vanden, Harry E., Kuecker, Glen David (2008): Latin American Social Movements in the Twenty-First Century – Resistance, Power, and Democracy, Roman & Littlefield Publishers.

•Smith, Peter H. (2005). Democracy in Latin America- Political Change in Comparative Perspective. Oxford University Press, New York.

Kompletterande artiklar