

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

International security politics

Internationell säkerhetspolitik

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	SV7070
Valid from:	Autumn 2013
Date of approval:	2013-04-25
Department	Department of Political Science
Main field:	Political Science
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus has been decided by the Board of the Department of Political Science, Stockholm University, 2013-04-25.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A Bachelor of Arts Degree (180 ECTS credit points or the equivalent), with a major in political science. English B (Swedish upper secondary school course) or the equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
7070	International security politics	7.5

Course content

This course offers students the opportunity to gain deeper knowledge of international security. Given the broad scope of international security, this course focuses on some salient issues and themes: the evolution of the subdiscipline; and the role of power, ideas, institutions, as well as nuclear weapons in international security. In so doing, the course gives special emphasis on the theories that have played the most important roles in the contemporary study of international security: realism, liberalism, constructivism and gender theory.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

-Orally, as well as in writing, present the main outlines of the leading theories of international security;

Skills and abilities

-Apply the central concepts in the theories to the study of issues in contemporary international security;

Evaluation and approach

-In writing apply one or more theories to a specific problem of international security, or, alternatively, critically discuss the advantages as well as drawbacks of one or more of these theories;

-Critically compare and contrast the four main theories presented at the course with each other.

Education

The course is organized as six seminars which are intended to be characterized by high student activity. The seminars are compulsory. Information about how absences may be compensated will be distributed at the beginning of the course.

Forms of examination

Examination will be in written form, undertaken continuously in conjunction with teaching and/or at the end of the course. It will include the individual writing of one concluding essay by the students.

For the grading, the course will employ a scale of seven steps, where A, B, C, D and E signify multiple degrees of pass, and F and Fx signify two degrees of fail. The grading is based on assessment criteria that will be distributed at the beginning of the course. It may be possible for a student to supplement the examination task if the grade is Fx and if information about this possibility is included in the supervising description of the course. In such cases the complementary work must be submitted within a week from when the examining teacher has informed the student about the task. If the complementary task is accepted and has the character of supplementing a lack of understanding, a minor misunderstanding, minor errors, or too limited discussions for some part, the grade E will be applied. If the complementary task is accepted and has the character of correcting simple formal errors the grades A-E will be applied. A student that has received a passing grade may not take part in a re-examination in order to obtain a higher grade. Students who have failed the course twice have the right to request another examiner. This request should be addressed to the departmental unit that has appointed the examiner.

Interim

When the 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 language of instruction is English

Required reading

Buzan, Barry and Lene Hansen: *The Evolution of International Security Studies*, Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009, 250 pages;

Detraz, Nicole, *International Security and Gender*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2012, 200 pages;

Freedman, Lawrence: *The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy*, Third Edition, Houndmills, Basingstoke: Macmillan 2003, selection of about 250 pages;

Ikenberry, John: *Liberal Leviathan: The Origins, Crisis, and Transformation of the American World Order*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012, selection of 200 pages;

Katzenstein, Peter (ed.): *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, Columbia University Press, 1996, selection of 200 pages;

Mearsheimer, John: *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, New York: Norton, 2001, selection of 200 pages
+ articles on international security policy