

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 2019
Date of approval:	2013-04-25
Changed:	2019-06-13
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. Date of latest revision 2019-06-13.

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
7001	International Security Politics	7.5

Course content

This course aims to provide students with a deeper knowledge about international security politics. Since this research field is wide, the course focuses on contemporary security threats in the form of inter-state disputes with or without nuclear weapons, civil war, terrorism, and transnational crime. The course explores trends in political violence and the scholarly understanding thereof, emphasizing both the causes of and the management of these security threats.

Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students should be able to:

Account for the main features of prominent theories about the causes, duration, type, and means of management and settlement of organized political violence.

Apply the central logic of these theories in the analysis of contemporary security political challenges.

In writing, be able to apply one or several of these theories on a specific international security political issue, and/or critically discuss in what way particular theoretical constructs have advantages and disadvantages for understanding contemporary international security threats.

Critically compare and contrast how theories focusing on different aspects of the processes of political violence relate to each other.

Education

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

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined by two take-home examinations.

Information about how the course grade is aggregated, based on the different examination parts, are to be found in the grading criteria.

The course is examined in English.

b. Grades will be set according to a seven point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Inadequate, some more work is required

F = Totally inadequate, a lot more work is required

c. Students will be informed of the written grading criteria as of course start.

d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on all examinations, complete all mandatory assignments and meet the attendance requirement.

e. At least two examination opportunities will be offered for each course. Students who receive the grade Fx or F twice by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the Director of Studies. Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.

f. The completion of a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade on course modules examined on the basis of a take-home exam may be permitted if the student is close to meeting the criteria for a passing grade. The assignment should be submitted within a week of the examiner notifying the student of the need to complete a supplementary assignment. Adequate corrections of flaws related to understanding – minor misunderstandings, minor inaccuracies or too limited arguments – will receive the grade E. Adequate corrections of simple mistakes related to formatting will be graded using the grades A-E. Supplementary assignments are never allowed for written examinations.

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.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree together with a course, taken in Sweden or elsewhere, of identical or partially similar content.

Required reading

The literature list will be posted on <http://www.statsvet.su.se/english/education/courses-andprogrammes/second-level>.

The literature list will be available at least two months before the course starts.