

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Area Studies: Theory and Method
Områdesstudier: Teori och metod

7.5 Higher Education
Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	ABMOMR
Valid from:	Autumn 2015
Date of approval:	2015-02-25
Department	Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies
Main field:	Mellanösterns språk och kulturer
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was adopted by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2015-02-25.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree in Humanities, Social Sciences or Law. English B/English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
ABOM	Area Studies: Theory and Method	7.5

Course content

This course gives an introduction to area studies as scientific practice and gives the student an insight into what the study of regions entails and the theoretical and methodological discussions around the study of regions, as well as comparative regional studies. A special focus will be placed on how the social sciences can be enriched through regional and humanistic perspectives and how knowledge of language, history and culture constitutes the basis of regional studies.

Within the course the methodological knowledge will be firmly established through examples of regional studies. The focus will be on empirical studies that deal with political development in Latin America, Turkey and the Middle East and North Africa, but other regions and subjects will be covered as well.

Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Show ability to, in an independent and critical way, relate to theoretical and methodological discussions of relevance for the study of regions, as well as comparative regional studies.
- Show knowledge about how the most common social sciences methods are used in area studies and the challenges this may lead to.
- Show knowledge about the discussion on the value of knowledge of language, history and culture as a basic requirement for regional studies.
- Show ability to, in an independent and critical way, analyse relevant examples of regional studies and theoretical and methodological issues related to these, with a special focus on empirical studies dealing with political development in Latin America, Turkey and the Middle East and North Africa.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. The language of instruction is English. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description.

Forms of examination

- a. The course is examined on the basis of a written assignment.
- 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
F = Totally Inadequate
- c. Students will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts.
- d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on the written assignment.
- e. At least two examination opportunities should be offered for each course. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during a semester when the course is not given.
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 department board. Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.
- f. This course does not include any opportunities to complete a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade.

Interim

When the syllabus is discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition 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.

Misc

This course may also be included in the main field of study; Latin American Studies.

Required reading

For up-to-date information about required reading, please refer to the department website at www.su.se/asia. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.