

# Syllabus

for course at first level

**Political Science in English II**  
**Statsvetenskap på engelska II**

**30.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**30.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	SVE002
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2020
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2017-03-21
<b>Changed:</b>	2019-10-22
<b>Department</b>	Department of Political Science
<b>Main field:</b>	Political Science
<b>Specialisation:</b>	G1F - First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

The syllabus has been approved by the Department Board of the Department of Political Science, Stockholm University, 2017-03-21. Revised 2019-10-22.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Political Science I, 30 credits, (or the equivalent).

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
2021	Approaches to Politics	7.5
2022	The Study of Democracy	7.5
2227	Gender Equality Policy in Sweden and Europe	7.5
2228	What are Human Rights? Perspectives and Conflicts	7.5
2234	Environmental Politics	7.5
2237	Transnational Actors in International Organizations	7.5
2244	War and democracy in global politics	7.5
3378	A New World Order?	7.5
3379	Security in International Relations	7.5
3384	International Political Economy	7.5
3393	Global Environmental Politics	7.5
3395	Inequalities of Political Participation and Representation	7.5
3396	Social Movements and Democracy in the Third World	7.5
2246	Feminism and Politics	7.5
2240	Human and International Security	7.5
2239	European Politics	7.5
2023	Political Science Research: Methods and Process	7.5
2024	Political Science Research: Independent Project	7.5
2247	21st Century Populism in a Comparative Perspective	7.5

## Course content

The course provides a wider and deeper knowledge of certain parts of the subject field studied within Political Science I; political science perspectives and approaches, and ability to critically examine political phenomena.

The course comprises four course modules.

#### Course module Approaches to Politics, 7.5 credits:

The course module sheds light on the role of theory in social science studies, and to provide an overview of important theoretical traditions. Furthermore the course offers insights into how theories are used and displayed in empirical studies. The course's aim is to give insights about how theory affects choice of topic, research questions and study design as well as what kind of results that can be expected. The course module will deepen the understanding of the relation between theoretical approach and the analysis of empirical material, as well as encourage critical reflection regarding the implications of theory choice on study design.

#### Course module The Study of Democracy, 7,5 credits

The course module aims at providing deeper knowledge and understanding of democracy, both theoretically and empirically. The aim of the course is to provide insight on how democracy can be defined, why democracy can be seen as valuable, what different models of democracy there are, and how democracy can be understood in different political contexts, such as international cooperation. The course module also provides insights on how democracy spreads, is maintained, or deteriorates in a global perspective. Special attention is paid to applying democratic theory in the study of political science.

#### Course module elective special course I, 7.5 credits:

For information about the special course, see [www.statsvet.su.se](http://www.statsvet.su.se), two months before course starts at the latest.

#### Course module elective special course II, 7.5 credits:

For information about the special course, see [www.statsvet.su.se](http://www.statsvet.su.se), two months before course starts at the latest.

### **Learning outcomes**

#### Knowledge and Understanding

After completion of the course the student should be able to use and apply:

- \* account for different theoretical approaches to politics and democracy, and their methodological implications
- \* account for fundamental theoretical perspectives on political issues and problems
- \* account for basic political science approaches and theories
- \* account for current research issues in political science
- \* understand and exemplify different theories and perspectives
- \* understand and exemplify research problems

#### Skills and Abilities

After completion of the course the student should be able to use and apply:

- \* various theoretical perspectives on politics, as well as show an understanding for their respective starting points and premises;
- \* various theories/perspectives on politics and democracy in order to elucidate political phenomenon
- \* the fundamentals of an academic style of writing.

#### Evaluation and Approach

After completion of the course the student should be able to:

- \* value and contrast theories and methods in an independent and critical way in both oral and written form;
- \* reflect upon his/hers chosen perspectives and their respective methodological implications;
- \* scrutinize and evaluate political science studies.

In order to pass the course module Approaches to Politics, 7.5 credits, students are expected to be able to:

- \* Be able to describe the content of different theories in an adequate way both verbally and in writing.
- \* Describe the theories presented during the course and account for their basic characteristics.
- \* Describe the importance of theory for formulating research questions, and designing an empirical study, as well as to account for what kind of outcomes that can be expected.
- \* Be able to perform analyzes of empirical material by using concepts or other core elements from the theories presented during the course module.
- \* Show an ability to understand and critically evaluate the theories presented during the course, and to reflect on their own choices of theories and its implications for a study in social science.

In order to pass the course module The Study of Democracy, 7,5 credits, students are expected to be able to:

- \* Account for central theories and concepts of democracy
- \* Account for normative theories of democracy
- \* Account for important theories about democratization
- \* Interpret and apply democratic theory, normative models, theories of democratization, and concepts of democracy on political phenomena.
- \* Critically and independently argue in relation to democratic theories, normative models, theories of democratization, and concepts of democracy.

In order to pass the course module elective special course I, 7.5 credits: see [www.statsvet.su.se](http://www.statsvet.su.se) two months before course start, at the latest.

In order to pass the course module elective special course II, 7.5 credits: see [www.statsvet.su.se](http://www.statsvet.su.se) two months before course start, at the latest.

## **Education**

The course is based on lectures and seminars. The seminars are compulsory.

## **Forms of examination**

a. All courses are examined by a take home examination.

Course module Approaches to Politics is examined by a take home examination.

Course module The Study of Democracy is examined by a take home examination.

Course module elective special course I is examined by a take home examination.

Course module elective special course II is examined by a take home examination.

b. Grades will be set according to a sevenpoint 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 all examinations, complete all mandatory assignments and meet the attendance requirement.

The letter grades A-E are converted into numbers 5-1 and aggregated to an average grade, which is calculated by weighting the number of higher education credits of each course module. The final course grade thus constitutes a weighted average of the course modules. Standard rules for rounding numbers apply.

e. At least two examination opportunities should 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 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**

The course code for this course was previously SV200E.

**Required reading**

See <http://www.statsvet.su.se/english/> two months before course start, at the latest.