

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Analysis of Democracy

Analys av demokrati

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	SV7095
Valid from:	Autumn 2017
Date of approval:	2017-06-07
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 approved by the Department Board of the Department of Political Science, Stockholm University, 2017-06-07.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A degree of at least 180 credits, with 90 credits in Political Science, or the equivalent.

English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
7095	Analysis of Democracy	7.5

Course content

The aim of this course is to provide students with deepened knowledge and understanding of the concept of democracy in both theoretical and practical circumstances to increase their ability to judge the quality and significance of democracy in different political contexts. What does it mean that a political system is democratic? What consequences do our theoretical points of departure have for how we understand democracy in different circumstances? How can democracy be evaluated, both normatively and empirically? How do different normative models of democracy relate to democratic institutions and their functioning? Particular emphasis is placed on the study of democracy in non-traditional contexts such as international politics, public administration and social movements. In the analysis of the quality and value of democracy students are trained in the application of a range of democratic-theoretical concepts such as political equality, freedom, non-domination, deliberation, collective self-determination and the so-called demos-problem, i.e. the delimitation of the people (demos) itself. The course will train participants in how to judge the quality of democracy using both qualitative and quantitative measures, such as indexes, and how to evaluate such measures.

Learning outcomes

After finishing this course, students are expected to be able to:

1) Knowledge and understanding

- Provide an account of central theories of democracy and their application in both oral and written

presentations, in a scientific manner.

- Explain and exemplify central theories of democracy and their relation to different institutional contexts.

2) Skills and abilities

- Interpret and apply central theories of democracy in different institutional contexts and on different phenomena and events in contemporary politics.
- Compare and contrast central theories of democracy as well as to identify their underlying theoretical premises.

3) Evaluation and approach

- Present and motivate critical arguments in relation to central democratic theories and their relation to different institutional contexts.
- Develop independent points of view and arguments based on central democratic theories and their practical application.

Education

The course consists of lectures and seminars.

The seminars are mandatory to attend. Information about how to compensate for absence will be provided at the beginning of the course.

The language of instruction is English.

The course description is available one month before the course starts at the latest.

Forms of examination

a) The course is examined through written assignments.

How the written assignments are weighed together is explained by the written grading criteria.

The language of examination is English.

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 fulfil the attendance requirement.

e) At least two examination opportunities should be offered for each time the course is given. During a semester when the course is not given, at least one examination opportunity should be offered.

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 Board of the Department.

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 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 simple mistakes related to formatting will be graded using the grades A-E. Adequate corrections of flaws related to understanding will receive the grade E.

Interim

When the syllabus is discontinued or when the content has been significantly modified, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once each 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. The course may not be included in a degree together with the course SV7085 Democracy in Analysis.

Misc

The course is mandatory within the International Master's Programme in Political Science and electable within the International Master's Programme in Environmental Social Science.

Required reading

The course literature list will be published on the website of the Department at least two months before the course starts.

<http://www.statsvet.su.se/english/education/courses-and-programmes/second-level/advanced-level-courses>