

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

The Challenges to Human Rights in a Global Perspective
Mänskliga rättigheter: Utmaningar i ett globalt perspektiv

**7.5 Higher Education
Credits**
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	ABMMRA
Valid from:	Spring 2019
Date of approval:	2018-09-12
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 established by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2017-10-18 and adopted by the Board of the Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies 2018-09-12.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree in humanities, social sciences or law, including a bachelor's thesis comprising a minimum of 15 ECTS, and English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
AB01	The Challenges to Human Rights in a Global Perspective	7.5

Course content

This course covers concepts and theories related to recent political and intellectual challenges to human rights regimes and liberal democracy in a national context.

The historical context for this course is the so-called wave of new-authoritarianism in various countries that has expressed itself through various forms of populism and nationalism in recent decades.

After the fall of the Iron Wall in 1989 the American writer and political scientist Francis Fukuyama coined the phrase "The End of History" which expressed the conviction that liberal democracy had become the only viable and reasonable political alternative around the world. For several years this statement also seemed to be reasonable with the fall of several dictatorships and authoritarian regimes around the world. However, in recent years the world has seen a backlash for liberal democracy in more or less violent forms. These political changes evoke questions concerning the prerequisites for and the critical challenges to liberal democracy.

The course address in this regard different theories and explanations with reference to "the new authoritarianism" from an interdisciplinary perspective.

The legal context is the terms and strategies of human rights law. The course provides specialisation in a set of relevant and contemporary issues related to human rights law in national contexts. Relevant examples may be the use of states of emergency, media and freedom of expression, migration or the role of civil society. It may also involve novel and modern approaches to human rights law, such as critical perspectives.

Learning outcomes

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

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of human rights in national contexts, in particular with reference to political and intellectual challenges to human rights regimes and models of liberal democracy.
- Understand and analyse the meaning and role of human rights law in national contexts
- Analyse political and intellectual challenges to human rights from an interdisciplinary, comparative area perspective.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. The language of instruction is English. Attendance at all teaching sessions is obligatory.

For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available at least one month before the course starts.

Forms of examination

- a) The course is examined on the basis of a written assignment, in the form of an essay.
- 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. Once set, the grading criteria related to the learning objectives of the course are binding.
- d) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher, alternatively a passed grade, on all examination assignments and meet the attendance requirement of 80%. Under special circumstances, the examiner may, after consulting with the coordinating teacher, grant the student an exemption from the obligation to participate in certain mandatory course elements. The student can then be assigned a compensatory assignment.
Students submitting the exam late can only obtain the grades C-F.
- 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. 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.

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.