Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

Middle East: Religions and Early History
Mellanöstern: Religioner och tidig historia

7.5 Higher Education Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	ABMGF4
Valid from:	Autumn 2021
Date of approval:	2020-02-12
Changed:	2021-03-10
Department	Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies
Main field:	Mellanösterns språk och kulturer
Specialisation:	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus was approved by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities on 2020-02-12 and revised by the Board of the Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies on 2021-03-10.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school course English B, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
AB01	Middle East: Religions and Early History	7.5

Course content

This course gives an overview of the historical development in the Middle East and North Africa from approximately 1800 BCE to 1500 CE. The course also covers the three Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam), their history, tenets of belief, holy scriptures, rites and central doctrinal groupings.

Learning outcomes

After finishing the course the student is expected to:
- exhibit knowledge about the history of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, their tenets of belief, holy scriptures, rites and central doctrinal groupings,
- broadly identify important courses of events and persons in the historical development of the Middle East and North Africa from from approximately 1800 BCE to 1500 CE, with a special focus on Muhammad and the origin of Islam and the Umayyad and Abbasid Caliphates.

Education

The instruction will consist of lectures and seminars. Attendance on all instruction is compulsory. The instruction will be conducted in the language stated for the respective course instance. For more detailed information please refer to the course description. The course description will be available 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 assignment. The language of examination, Swedish or English, will be the language stated for the respective course instance.

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

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) The student will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts. The communicated grading criteria are binding.

d) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on all examinations and meet the attendance requirement of 80 percent.
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 teaching. The student may then be assigned a compensatory assignment.

e) At least two examination opportunities should be offered for each course when it is given. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during an academic year 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 person responsible for the course.
A student who receives 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 is not permitted for this course.

Interim

When the syllabus is discontinued, a student has the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a winding up period of three semesters.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree together with a passed 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/mena. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.