Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies



Syllabus

for course at first level

Politics and Development in the Middle East Politik och utveckling i Mellanöstern

7.5 Higher Education Credits 7.5 ECTS credits

 Course code:
 ABMGF6

 Valid from:
 Autumn 2023

 Date of approval:
 2020-02-12

 Changed:
 2023-03-08

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

This syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

The Board of the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies has decided on the revised version.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school course English B, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination codeNameHigher Education CreditsAB01Politics and Development in the Middle East7.5

Course content

This course provides an introduction to the current landscape of the Middle East and North Africa's political economy. To best accomplish this, students will explore the geographic conditions, demography and cultural politics that shaped the last century of transformation in the region. The course also covers current societies from the perspective of research using gender as a medium of analysis, with particular focus on women's rights in the course of economic change since World War I. The course also deals with the region's contemporary socio-economic experiences with structural changes taking place since World War II and then again, after the Cold War. With the rise of the oil industry during the Cold War a particular area of focus, the course considers the conditions for political and economic development in the Middle East and how various factors impact the forms of labor, social organization, and state formation emerging in the region over the last century of change. By specifically considering issues shaping development in the Middle East around gender, labor, political economy and demography, this course will help students understand the contemporary challenges, such as democratization, for those who live in the region.

Learning outcomes

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

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of the contemporary political-economic landscape of the Middle East and North Africa.
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of what distinguishes the Middle East and North Africa region in terms of the various geographical conditions, demographic challenges and the resulting economic factors.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the impact of gender and labor structures on the region's contemporary social life

and women's rights.

- Demonstrate a basic ability to analyze conditions for political and economic development in the Middle East.
- Demonstrate basic knowledge about the study of the Middle East in general and its political economic landscape in particular and thereby insight into the role of knowledge in society and about people's responsibility for how it is used.

Education

The instruction will consist of lectures and seminars. Attendance on all instruction is compulsory.

The instruction will be conducted in Swedish and/or English as specified for each respective course offering.

Instruction is either online or campus-based, as specified for each course offering.

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 final exam in the form of a digital multiple-choice examination.

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.

If a student has a certificate with recommendations for special pedagogical support due to a long-term disability, the examiner can adapt the examination or allow the student an alternative examination.

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 = Fail, some additional work required

F = Fail, much more work required

- 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 the examination 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.

Assignments not submitted on time will be grade with a penalty of one grade on to the seven point scale.

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.