



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
History

Syllabus

History I

Course Code:	HIGD01
Course Title:	History I <i>Historia I</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
HIA (History)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2020-02-25, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Field-specific eligibility A1 (History 1b or 1a1 + 1a2, Civics 1b or 1a1 + 1a2) or field-specific eligibility 1 (History A, Civics A), or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Module 1, History as a Science (5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of a few concepts used in historical research,
 2. explain the meaning of and apply the source-critical method,
 3. give an account of and provide examples of the use of history and historical second order concepts,
 4. explain how categories such as gender, sexuality, and class can be understood as historical concepts,
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5. describe migration, cultural encounters, and the environment as transhistorical perspectives.

Module 2, Building Civilisations (5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. describe and compare the historical development in different cultures and epochs,
2. give an account of how migration, the climate, and geographical conditions have influenced the evolution of human cultures, and
3. give an account of how gender, sexuality, and class have influenced the evolution of human cultures.

Module 3, The Long Middle Ages (5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of the causes and consequences of the transition from the feudal state to the system of commercial capitalism,
2. explain the emergence and function of cities in the Middle Ages,
3. give an account of the globalisation trends in connection with the journeys of discovery,
4. describe the social importance of religions in terms of cultural and political aspects, and
5. give an account of how societal changes in the Middle Ages and medieval ideas have influenced views on gender, sexuality, and class.

Module 4, State and Capital (7.5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. describe the increasing global influence of the Western world through world trade and colonialism,
2. describe the causes and consequences of the formation of the national state,
3. give an account of the emergence of new ideas and political ideologies,
4. give an account of different historical explanations of industrialisation and its consequences for different social groups and their life circumstances, and
5. give an account of and discuss applications of historical second order concepts.

Module 5, The Age of Extremes (7.5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of the emergence of democracy nationally and internationally,
2. describe various forms of dictatorship and oppression in Europe and in other parts of the world,
3. give an account of theories on the causes and global consequences of the world wars and the cold war,
4. give an account of the global environmental and economic development of the post-war era,
5. describe and explain the emergence of the Swedish welfare state,
6. give an account of how the societal changes of the 20th century have influenced views on gender, sexuality, and class, and
7. give an account of and discuss applications in the use of history.

Content

The course covers the history of both women and men and includes the following five course modules:

Module 1: History as a Science (5 ECTS cr)

This module provides an introduction to history as a science. The module covers the research basis of historical knowledge when it comes to sources and source use, as well as background information regarding the emergence of history as a subject and a discipline. The module also outlines how history is used in different contexts.

Module 2: Building Civilisations (5 ECTS cr)

The module provides an overview of humans as cultural beings throughout history until today. Starting with the early civilisations, students discuss issues of origin, development, and decline. The module applies a global historical perspective to world history, and one of the themes is sustainable development.

Module 3: The Long Middle Ages (5 ECTS cr)

The period from the Roman empire to the Reformation and the Renaissance is covered in a comparative global perspective. A starting point is the formation of Europe in the transition from the feudal state to commercial capitalism and the emergence of an alternative perception of the world based on the elementary principles of Antiquity and Christianity. The importance of the journeys of discovery for the creation of closer networks between different cultural areas around the world is emphasised. The module also deals with Swedish history in relation to the European and global development.

Module 4: State and Capital (7.5 ECTS c)

The module deals with the increasing global influence of the Western world from the 16th century to the early 20th century and the effects of colonialism and industrialisation on world development. Changes in types of regime, the emergence of ideology-based movements, and growing conflicts between various Western colonial systems are treated as a background to the world-wide wars and conflicts in the 20th century. Special attention is paid to the Swedish development.

Module 5: The Age of Extremes (7.5 ECTS cr)

The period from the first world war until the present day is covered in a global as well as a Swedish perspective, based on binaries such as war/peace, poor/rich, dictatorship/democracy, market economy/plan economy, nationalism/internationalism, local/global, family/individual, and work/leisure.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1: Assessment is based on an individual hand-in assignment and oral presentation in a seminar.

Modules 2, 3, and 4: Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam and oral presentation in a seminar.

Module 5: Assessment is based on a written exam and oral presentation in a seminar.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to special pedagogical support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course and the modules. A course grade of Distinction is awarded to students who have earned this grade for at least 21 course credits.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.