



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Cultural Studies

# Syllabus

## History of Ideas II: Global History of Ideas

<b>Course Code:</b>	KVGH22
<b>Course Title:</b>	History of Ideas II: Global History of Ideas <i>Idéhistoria II: Global idéhistoria</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	7.5
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

**Major Field of Study:**  
KSU (Cultural Studies)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-09-03, and is valid from the Spring semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

30 ECTS credits in History of Ideas, Philosophy, Cultural Studies, Political Science, or Religious Studies, with at 22.5 ECTS credits completed, or equivalent

### Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify and give an account of the main features of historical non-Western world views and relate these to European world views and ideals of life,
- analyse the encounter and interaction between Western and non-Western worlds of ideas as expressions of a globalisation process,

### Competence and skills

- critically discuss arguments for the dissemination of ideas, hybridisation, modernisation, and homogenisation as explanatory models for similarities between Western and non-Western world views and thought patterns,
- contextualise and analyse world views in texts and documents of non-European cultures,
- outline the most important problems, arguments, and conclusions in a non-European intellectual history primary source,

### Judgement and approach

- give an account of and discuss historical courses of events through analysis of the connection between world views and human action, and
- critically reflect on Western idea traditions, canon, universal norms, and axiomatic truths when considering non-European perspectives and experiences.

### Content

In this course, non-European cultures are studied from a global and comparative perspective. The overarching theme is world views, with the aim to relate some of their main features, primarily beyond Western and Abrahamic cultural spheres, to a traditional history of ideas canon. The encounters of Europeans with alien cultures and their effects on understandings of the world are treated. An important aspect in this context is non-European conceptions of Europeans. The importance of the colonial heritage to the dissemination of ideas is studied with the help of postcolonial theories placed in a history of ideas context. The concept of globalisation and the emergence of global cultural patterns are also analysed.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, presenting overviews of essential content, and mandatory seminars on course content in the light of course literature, in which students discuss their understanding orally and in writing.

### Reading List

See separate document.

### Examination

Assessment is based on a take-home exam, active participation in seminars, and a brief popular science seminar presentation on a course theme.

The examiner may decide that a student who is very close to a passing grade can complete a supplementary assignment to receive a passing grade for a specific examination. If this is a possibility, the students must be informed in writing no later than the start of the course, and the examiner must specify when and how such a supplementary assignment may be permitted.

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 Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

### 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.