



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Social and Political Studies

Syllabus

Civics 1

Course Code:	SHGF01
Course Title:	Civics 1 <i>Samhällskunskap 1</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2015-03-31, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2015 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements plus field-specific eligibility A6c - Civics (Mathematics 2a/2b/2c, Civics 2) or field-specific eligibility 6c - Civics (English B, Mathematics B, Civics B)

Learning Outcomes

Module 1 - Teaching civics today and tomorrow (7.5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

1. explain and problematise the concept of society from different theoretical perspectives,
2. give an account of and interpret basic issues and applications in civics education,
3. give an account of and interpret curricula and grade criteria in the civics subject, and
4. describe and problematise the role and impact of ICT on society.

Module 2 - Social and legal perspectives on human conditions and actions (15 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

1. explain basic sociological theories and methods,
2. explain basic areas of social psychology ,
3. apply sociological theories and methods to current social problems,
4. give an account of different relations between individual actions and social structure,
5. describe and assess how factors such as gender, ethnicity, class and religion impact on individual social conditions and civic participation,
6. explain the Swedish and international legal systems and give examples of how these function as instruments for rule of law and social structuring and planning,
7. describe and analyse international conditions in terms of public international law,
8. describe and assess how factors such as gender, ethnicity, class and religion impact on criminality and violence,
9. apply civics education theories to sociological and legal subject content.

Module 3 - Economic conditions I (7.5 ECTS cr)

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

1. explain basic economic theories and place them in their ideational and historical context,
2. review and assess economic issues based on economic theories and concepts,
3. identify market principles in relation to pricing theories and different market forms,
4. explain the foundation of private economy and how society affects the conditions of private economy,
5. describe and assess how economic factors impact on individual identity-creation and civic participation, and
6. apply civics education theories to national and private economic subject content.

Content

The aim of the course is that students develop broad and professional competences as civics teachers. Teaching about society requires knowledge of social, economic and political action and conditions, as well as of teaching methodology and teaching skills. The concept of society is used to relate different module content and perspectives to a whole.

The course comprises the following modules and components:

Module 1

- the concept of society is introduced and problematised
- basic subject-specific teaching theories are presented and problematised and basic teaching issues are applied to the civics subject
- mass media and ICT in current society and education are presented and problematised from the perspectives of teaching and society

Module 2

- a basic sociological perspective on society is presented and problematised
- a basic legal perspective on society is presented and problematised
- sustainable development is discussed from a sociological perspective with special emphasis on international conditions
- sociological and legal perspectives are related to the concept of society through theories and applications of identity-creation and subject-specific teaching methodology

Module 3

- a basic economics perspective on society with emphasis on micro economy theory is presented and problematised
- a basic private economy perspective is presented and problematised
- the economics perspective is related to the concept of society through theories and applications of identity-creation and subject-specific teaching methodology

Forms of instruction

- lectures, seminars and interactive communication

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on:

Module 1

Learning outcomes 1-3: written exam.

Learning outcome 4: mandatory seminar.

Module 2

Learning outcomes 1-5: written exam.

Learning outcomes 6-9: two individual hand-in assignments presented and discussed in mandatory

seminars.

Module 3

Learning outcomes 1-4: written exam.

Learning outcomes 5-6: individual hand-in assignments presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. The grade of Distinction (VG) is awarded to students who have earned this grade for at least 15 of the 30 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.