Syllabus

Forms of power and governance

Course Code: SVA506
Course Title: Forms of power and governance
Credits: 7.5
Degree Level: Master's level
Progressive Specialisation: Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
SKA (Political Science)

Course Approval
The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science 2016-03-14, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2016 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites
General admission requirements for education at Master's level.
Upper secondary school level English 6 or B or equivalent.
Bachelor's Degree 180 ECTS cr with a Major in History, Human Geography, Tourism Studies, Environmental Science, or Political Science, or equivalent, or a professional degree in GIS Engineering 180 ECTS cr, including a degree project 15 ECTS cr.

Students with a Major in Tourism Studies, Environmental Science or GIS Engineering must have a social science profile.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
- explain power and governance in the context of regional building from different theoretical perspectives,
- identify and problematise the different modes of power and governance enacted in the regional arena,
- identify and problematise various forms of governance and evaluate their consequences from a democracy perspective,
- apply and combine different theoretical perspectives on power and governance and explain how a political change can be achieved in the regional arena, and
- analyse how academic argumentation on power and governance is built on different scholarly texts, and evaluate how the arguments contribute to an enhanced understanding of the forms of power and governance in region building.

Content
The course has a focus on power and governance from different perspectives, addressing the issues of
the exercise of public power and the development of postmodern forms of governance in complex environments and networks. Power and changes in the exercise of power as well as governance are studied in relation to societal structures and different actors’ interaction in political arenas, including the regional arena.

Reading List
See separate document.

Examination
Assessment is based on individual assignments presented and discussed in seminars and on an individual take-home exam.

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.