



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Political Science

# Syllabus

## Political Ideas

<b>Course Code:</b>	SVGA11
<b>Course Title:</b>	Political Ideas <i>Politiska idéer</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	7.5
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

**Major Field of Study:**  
SKA (Political Science)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-03-05, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

General admission requirements

### Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

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

- give an account of significant historical and contemporary political theories, and
- give an account of significant ideologies.

Competence and skills

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

- apply political theories on concrete sets of problems, and

- apply ideological perspectives on concrete sets of problems.

### **Content**

This course gives an introduction to political thinking in a historical perspective, from antiquity to our time. Influential theories of the state, freedom, justice, gender, and cultural diversity are analysed and contrasted, alongside political ideologies such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism, and environmentalism. The aim of the course is that students acquire basic knowledge and understanding of the development of political ideas in the Western world, and develop competence and skills in analysing and contrasting political and theoretical arguments and ideological positions. The methodology component includes basic practice in such analysis.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam and two written group assignments, discussed 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 Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of this module.

### **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.

For information about courses which cannot be included in the same degree, please contact the course coordinator.