



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Political Science

# Syllabus

## Political Institutions

<b>Course Code:</b>	SVGA12
<b>Course Title:</b>	Political Institutions <i>Politikens institutioner</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:

- explain the institutional arrangements of different political systems, both in terms of function and in terms of structure

Competence and skills

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

- apply central political science concepts to events, processes, and institutions in different political

systems,

Judgement and approach

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

- examine and critically assess the possible effects of institutional changes on different political systems.

### **Content**

The course starts out from a concept of politics related to the various functions of political institutions in different forms of governance. There is a focus on the constitutional structure of institutions and related processes at the local, regional, and national levels, primarily in Sweden but also in comparison to other countries. Fundamental political science concepts are introduced, discussed, and compared to promote understanding of the significance, function, and structure of political institutions in different political systems, where means of governance and control, the institutions of state agencies, and political parties are highlighted as central components. The methodological course elements include elementary practice in political analysis, for example policy analysis and comparative analysis.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam and a written group assignment presented 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 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.

For information about courses which cannot be included in the same degree programme as SVGA12, please contact the course coordinator.