Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Political Science

Syllabus

Course Approval
The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 17 September 2012, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2013 at Karlstad University. It replaces the former syllabus SVGAE4.

Course Code: SVGE40
Further Studies in Politics, 7.5 ECTS Credits
(Further Studies in Politics, 7.5 Swedish credit points)
Degree Level: Bachelor
Progressive Specialisation: G1N (First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements)

Language of Instruction
English

Prerequisites
In order to be admitted the student must have completed at least one of the courses SVGAE2, SVGAE3, SVGAE5 or SVGAE6 or SVGE20, SVGE30, SVGE50 or SVGE60.

Major Field of Study
SKA (Political Science)

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate the following:

Specific Knowledge Skills:

Understanding of the origin, development and operation of chosen subject areas within political science.

The below transferable skills are related to and integrated in the specific knowledge skills.

Information-gathering, Communication and Research Skills:

Skills required to identify and access a range of relevant information and resources;
Skills in preparing interesting, creative and informative presentations which can target diverse audiences;
Ability to develop effective reports and presentations; and
Bibliographic skills.

Thinking, Planning and Organisational Skills:

The ability to learn, understand and interpret information, and apply knowledge to new situations;
The ability to set priorities, meet deadlines and effectively manage time, data and resources;
Problem-solving skills and the ability to make well-reasoned decisions, think creatively and search for, identify and consider different sides of an issue; and
The ability to gather, organise and deploy evidence and information.
Content and Form of Instruction

The course consists of an introduction to the course (i.e. a lecture) and a concluding compulsory seminar in which all essays are presented, defended and discussed. Throughout the course supervisory meetings/seminars take place (these can be individual or in a group).

The essay topic is chosen in consultation with the supervisor allocated and/or the course convenor.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Examination of this course is two-fold, firstly the essay (i.e. the written product) is examined and secondly the author has to defend the written product as well as scrutinise a fellow student’s written work. The second part of the assignment takes place through a compulsory seminar where the essay is presented and defended.

Grades

The course is graded using a three grade scale: Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor’s and Master’s levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

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