



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Social Studies

1FU123 Freds- och utvecklingsstudier I, 30 högskolepoäng
Peace and Development Studies I, 30 credits

Main field of study

Peace and Development Studies

Subject

Peace and Development Research

Level

First cycle

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2018-01-10.

Revised 2026-02-10. The prerequisite requirement has been supplemented with subjects according to GY25.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements + Social Sciences 1b or 1a1 +1a2 and English 6. Or: Social Sciences level 1b or Social studies level 1a1+1a2, English level 2, or equivalent.

Objectives

After completing the course, students shall be able to:

- discuss and demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts dealing with the connection between conflict, peace and development,
- discuss the foundation and history of peace and development studies,

- account for and compare existing theories about international political economy,
- explain the significance and policy consequences of different development theories,
- discuss the full cycle of peace and security activities, ranging from early warning to peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

Peace and Development in the Global World 7.5 credits

After completing the module, students shall be able to:

- comprehend and account for the basic concepts dealing with the connection between conflict, peace and development
- discuss the foundation and history of peace and development studies

International Political Economy 7.5 credits

After completing the module, students shall be able to:

- account for and compare existing theories about international political economy.

Political Economy of Development 7.5 credits

After completing the module, students shall be able to:

- explain the significance and policy consequences of different development theories

Conflict and Peacebuilding 7.5 credits

After completing the module, students shall be able to:

- discuss the full cycle of peace and security activities, ranging from early warning to peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

Content

The course consists of four modules:

Peace and Development in the Global World 7.5 credits

The first module introduces the foundations, concepts and historic development of the discipline. Value premises, conceptions of the world, and approaches to knowledge within interdisciplinary research are discussed. The module begins with an introduction to global conflict patterns and development perspectives, and continues with a presentation of various explanations for the differences in developmental levels around the world. The inter-relation between peace and development is discussed together with the impact of violence in key areas.

International Political Economy 7.5 credits

This course provides students with an introduction to global political economy as a central frame for the study of peace and development. Students discuss the discipline's major theoretical frameworks, including gender and environmental theories, as well as different political and economic actors and their approaches towards the management of political economy. The course also analyzes the evolution and contemporary functioning of international trade, the international financial system, transnational production, the current division of labor, economic development, and geopolitics. We also talk about the impact of globalization on our current global political economic system and discuss its future development.

Political Economy of Development 7.5 credits

This course aims at providing students with basic knowledge in the economics and the political economy of development, poverty, and inequality. The course will enhance students' understanding of models of economic growth and development; review the empirical evidence for these models; and critically discuss the assumptions and the ideological context of these models. A number of key issues of developing countries will be given particular attention including human capital formation, entrepreneurship, agriculture, urbanisation, and the informal economy. With respect to the international environment of developing countries the course focuses on structural problems in the balance of payments, trade policy, migration and international development assistance. Across all subjects the course will critically examine the role of the state and the market respectively.

Conflict and Peacebuilding 7.5 credits

The course explores the methods and techniques used to prevent conflict and to restore security and peace once violence has erupted. The full cycle of peace activities are considered, ranging from early warning to peacekeeping, peacebuilding and reconciliation. Furthermore, the role of gender is used to analyze dimensions of conflicts as well as alternative approaches to peace. Throughout the module, specific tasks of peacekeepers and peacebuilders will be studied, including the protection of civilians, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration and transitional justice.

Type of Instruction

The teaching methods consist of lectures and seminars.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E or F.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail (i.e. received the grade F). Fx is not a grade and is only used when a student is allowed to complement their examination.

In order to obtain the grade of Pass (E) in the entire course, all modules must be assessed with at least the grade of E or higher. The grade for the entire course is determined by converting the grades of A-E into numbers where A equals 5 and E equals 1. The final grade is a weighted assessment of all the grades for the modules. In order to obtain a final grade of A in the course, the student is required to obtain an average of at least 4.6, for the grade of B an average of 3.6 is required, for C an average of 2.6 and for D an average of 1.6. To obtain the grade of E, all modules require at least the grade of E.

Examination of module 1 takes place by means of one individual written assignment and two group assignments.

Examination of module 2 takes place by means of one individual written assignment and one group assignment.

Examination of module 3 takes place by means of one individual written assignment and two group assignments and oral presentations.

Examination of module 4 takes place by means of one individual written assignment

and one group assignment.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-Cycle and Second-Cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

Should the university determine that a student is entitled to special educational support due to impairment, the examiner may provide the student with an adapted test or the student may carry out the examination in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out either during or at the end of the course. Results and analysis of the evaluation are presented to the students who have completed the course as well as to new students at the following course date. The course evaluation is conducted anonymously.

Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course:

1FU122 Peace and development studies I, module 1, 2 and 3 and 1FU201 Peace and development studies II, module 3.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Peace and Development in the Global World 7.5 credits

Marks, Robert (latest edition), *The Origins of the Modern World*, Lanham: Roman & Littlefield Publishers, (also available in Swedish) 160 pages.

Ramsbotham, O., Tom Woodhouse & Miall, Hugh, (latest edition). *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Scientific publications, approximately 200 pages.

International Political Economy 7.5 credits

Theodore H Cohn, *Global Political Economy* (latest edition), Routledge, 468 pages.

Scientific publications, approximately 60 pages.

Political Economy of Development 7.5 credits

Burnell, Peter, Lise Rakner and Vicky Randall (latest edition) *Politics in the developing world*. Oxford; Oxford University Press, 45 pages. (also used in module 2)

Todaro, Michael & Stephen C. Smith (latest edition) *Economic Development*. Harlow: Pearson, 780 pages.

Conflict and Peacebuilding 7.5 credits

Miall, Hugh, Oliver Ramsbotham and Tom Woodhouse (latest edition). *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*. Cambridge: Polity, 300 pages.

Scientific publications, approximately 200 pages