



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Cultural Sciences

1HI620 Född att styra – den tidigmoderna adeln, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Born to rule: the nobility of the early modern period, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

History

Subject Group

History

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

GIN

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Cultural Sciences 2010-06-17

Revised 2011-10-31. Smaller adjustments.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2011

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and Civics A and History A (Field-specific entry requirements 1).

Expected learning outcomes

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

- account for the societal functions of nobility in Europe as well as their change in role from warrior caste to dominating bureaucracy, as a result of the state-building process,
- account for important features of noble attitudes within different fields such as politics, honour and religion,
- argue for whether nobles were characterised by adaptability or fossilisation in different European countries,
- discuss major differences within nobility and what it meant for noble identity.

Content

This course covers the development of the Early Modern State, as well as the societal functions of nobility in Europe, along with their change in role from warrior caste to dominating bureaucracy. An important feature in this is the role of education, and how a new ideal, educated, nobleman emerged. Patron and client relations and duels are also touched upon. Special emphasis is placed on the utilization of source texts so that students themselves can work with empirical material. With this in view, the new edition

of Claes Ekeblad's, the seventeenth century nobleman, letters, as well as a compendium with letters and other primary sources, are included in the course literature.

Type of Instruction

Teaching in the form of web based lectures. Examination and grading are based on written home assignments and a written project work in accordance with teacher instructions.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

In order to pass the course, students need to meet the expected learning outcomes.

Examination and grading occur through written assignments in accordance with teacher instructions. Active participation at web based seminar discussions is required in order to pass the course.

A resit is offered within six weeks (within the framework of regular terms) and the number of resits is limited to five (in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance 6 chap. 21§).

Course Evaluation

Course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course. The evaluation is compiled, reviewed with the students and archived according to departmental protocol.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Allén, Sture (publisher) *Breven till Claes. Om livet och hovet på drottning Kristinas tid*. Atlantis 2006. Brev av hovmannen Claes Ekeblad, latest edition, 220 p.

Asch, Ronald, *Nobilities in transition 1550-1700: Courtiers and Rebels in Britain and Europe*. Bloomsbury Academic 2003, latest edition 240 p.

Dewald, Jonathan, *The European Nobility, 1400-1800*. Cambridge University Press 1996, latest edition, 232 p.

Persson, Fabian, (1999) *Bättre livlös än ärelös. Symbolik och sociala funktioner i stormaktstidens dueller*, Scandia 1999:1, latest edition, p 21-33. 13 p. (available in full online.)

Saint Simon, *Louis de Minnen från Ludvig XIVs hov 1691-1723*. Atlantis 2005, latest edition, 578 p.

Sevigné, Madame de, *Selected Letters*. Longman 2003, latest edition, 320 p.