



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences  
Department of Political Science

1SHÄ02 Samhällskunskap I - inriktning mot arbete i gymnasieskolan,  
30 högskolepoäng

Social Studies 1 – for upper secondary school teachers, 30 credits

### **Subject Group**

Social Studies

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

GIN

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2009-07-15

Revised 2014-06-04 by Faculty of Social Sciences.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2014

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements and English B, Mathematics B, Civics B. General entry requirements as well as field-specific entry requirements 6 c: Mathematics B and Social Studies B.

## Objectives

be able to

- distinguish and describe basic features of the teacher profession related to the subject and the subject didactics
- identify and formulate subject didactic questions related to the fields of activities the education prepares for
- discuss, analyze and give examples of assessment and grading in relation to the subject and the content of education
- comprehensively summarize the breadth and sub-disciplines of the political sciences
- identify current problem fields of the political sciences
- relate current political courses of event to the basics of political sciences.

**Module 1 Political ideas, 7,5 credits**

The student shall, after completed course be able to

- summarize political science analysis and theory
- describe central political ideologies
- relate political science concepts and models to the social studies subject syllabus as well as to the social studies course syllabus of the upper secondary school.

### **Module 2 Swedish and comparative politics, 7,5 credits**

After completed course the student shall be able to

- explain how support and demand shall be articulated in democratic systems
- describe how political decisions are made in different forms of government
- exemplify how society issues can be seen out of different perspectives, with an attitude of the social studies which is critical of the sources

### **Module 3 Administrative politics, 7,5 credits**

After completed course the student shall be able to

- comprehensively describe the organization and function of public administration
- make a distinction between different perspectives of administration politics
- have a perspective to subject didactic forming of theories concerning social studies as a teaching subject

### **Module 4 International politics, 7.5 credits**

After completed course the student shall be able to

- identify the dominating theoretical perspectives within the research on international politics
- describe the development within international politics during the postwar era.
- Show how the subject and course syllabus of social studies of the nine year compulsory school and the upper secondary school can in practice be connected to current international processes

## **Content**

### **Comprehensive content**

The course Social studies (1-30 credits) contains four political science modules, whose content continuously is connected with the profession of social studies teacher.

All in all the course Social Studies 1 – focusing on work in upper secondary school – gives the basic knowledge needed for a scientific attitude to the social studies. Through recurrent didactic reflection on the content of the course and a field study day the build-up of a broad professional basis for deepened studies within the subject is commenced. Questions on sustainable development, gender, versatility and internationalization are self-evidently a part of the political science subject tradition. These questions are

moreover elucidated especially in didactic parts special to the subject. The subject content is as relevant to the social studies teachers in the forms 7-9 and the adult education as to the upper secondary school.

#### ***Module 1 Political ideas 7.5 credits***

The module is commenced with an introduction to political science analysis and theory. After that the course gives a survey of a selection of the western political history of ideas from the antiquity to modern days.

A special emphasis is put on democratic ideas. Didactic reflections on the content prepare an application of concepts and models in the subject of Social studies.

#### ***Module 2 Swedish and comparative politics 7.5 credits***

During the course the student is acquainted with central study objects and theories in Swedish and foreign political systems. The course is based on four political processes. First of all is studied how interests are articulated in politics through political conflicts, political culture and political participation. Secondly is described how interests are aggregated through political parties and general elections. Thirdly is analysed how political decisions are formed in different forms of government, multilevel government and parliament. Fourthly is studied democratization focusing on Swedish political history. In the subject didactic specialization is focused on the Swedish politics and its role in the social studies subject.

#### ***Module 3 Administrative politics 7.5 credits***

The module gives an introduction to the role of the public administration in the political system, its organization and function. Different concepts and perspectives useful to study administration and administrative politics are introduced. Further comparisons are made between Sweden and other states. In this context also EU and other international administrations are touched. From subject didactic perspective knowledge and theory forming on administration are considered as content of the social studies subject.

#### ***Module 4 International politics 7.5 credits***

The module begins with a background to the historical as well as the modern study of international politics. After that the dominating theoretical perspectives used to interpret international politics are introduced and discussed. The third part treats the empirical development within international politics from 1945 and forward from international as well as Swedish basis. Finally a number of processes and thematic fields are treated as conflicts and cooperation, globalization, human rights and diplomacy.

A special part is about EU as a global actor. In the subject didactic specialization about international politics a special space is given to human rights.

### **Type of Instruction**

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and field studies. Participation in seminars, group accounts and field studies are compulsory as well as preparations of these.

### **Examination**

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

To receive the grade Pass on the course, the expected study results shall be achieved. The course is assessed as a whole, but also on the result of the modules. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction as term mark, Pass with Distinction is required on at least 22.5 credits as well as Pass on 7.5 credits.

During the course continuous assessment is made of the participants' achievements. Further the tasks made individually and/or in groups shall be accounted for and in addition the results of written tests will be included in the assessment.

### **Course Evaluation**

After completed course a course evaluation is carried out which is put together in writing and is fed back to the students.

The summarizing is accounted for to current department organs and to current department board, and is filed by the department responsible for the course.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

### *List of references Module 1 - Political ideas 7.5 hec*

### *List of references Module 2 - Swedish and comparative politics 7.5 hec*

### *List of references Module 3 - Administrative politics 7.5 hec*

### *List of references Module 4 - International politics 7.5 hec*

Brommesson, Douglas & Ann-Marie Ekengren (red.) (latest edition). *Sverige i världen*. Malmö: Gleerup. 215 p.

Heywood, Andrew (2011). *Global Politics*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. (560s)

### **Subject didactic literature**

Odenstad, Christina (2010). *Prov och bedömning i samhällskunskap. En analys av gymnasielärares skriftliga prov*. Karlstad: Karlstad University Press. ISBN: 978-91-7063-332-4, ca 180 p.

Skolverket (2011). *Läroplan, examensmål och gymnasiegemensamma ämnen för gymnasieskola 2011*. Stockholm: Fritzes ISBN: 978-91-38325-94-0

Skolverket (2011). *Läroplan för grundskolan, förskoleklassen och fritidshemmet 2011*. Stockholm: Fritzes ISBN: 978-91-38325-41-4

Verneresson, Folke (latest edition). *Undervisa om samhället. Didaktiska modeller och lärar-uppfattningar*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Selected parts, 200 p.

Further material provided by the institution may be added.