



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Social Studies

1SH150 Globala frågor I, 30 högskolepoäng

1SH150 Global Issues I, 30 credits

Main field of study

Sociology

Subject Group

Sociology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2014-10-29

Revised 2023-05-25 by Faculty of Social Sciences. Revision of literature

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2023

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for university studies.

Objectives

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

- analyse, contrast and compare different perspectives on global issues,
- comprehend the theoretical and empirical notions of global issues, in particular issues such as globalization, democratization, international law and the transformations of the world economy,
- discuss and define these issues as concepts and phenomena, and
- identify global issues in our contemporary world.

Content

The course consists of four modules.

Module 1 Perspectives on Globalization 7.5 credits

Globalization has become a key concept and a whole explanatory dimension in Social Sciences in recent years. This is in part due to increasing exchanges within the economic, political, and cultural life in the world. The students will explore the process

of globalization in view of various economical, political and cultural perspectives. Furthermore, analyses of the nature of the contemporary global changes and their dividing and uniting forces will be carried out. The impact of globalization on the development of democracy and the nation state, the evolution of the international system and the pursuit of human rights, the social consequences of globalization and the creation of a globalized culture will be discussed.

Module 2 Democratization in the World 7.5 credits

The main objective of the course is to introduce concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings of research into democratization. The module begins with a discussion on core concepts, definitions and theories that frame the research on democratization. This discussion includes democracy as political rights and civil liberties, democratization as a phenomenon, processes and phases and identified favourable and unfavourable factors to democratization in the world. The second part of the module explores historical and contemporary trends of democratization in the world.

Module 3 International Law 7.5 credits

The purpose of this module is to introduce central, basic and elementary knowledge of international law. The module provides an introduction to the system of principles, norms, institutions and procedures of international law. The following themes and topics of international law will be explored: historical development of international law and its relevance in present world order; theories and subjects of international law; sources of international law and states, international organisations and individuals in international law.

Module 4 Transformations of the world economy 7.5 credits

The economy is central in understanding the transformations of the world. Political economy deals with issues such as inflation, unemployment, trade, welfare promotion, poverty, external shocks such as financial crises, recession, energy supply, and environmental problems. The module will discuss the role(s) the economy and the market plays in relation to the state and civil society in the transformations of the world. In this module we will discuss varieties of capitalism and welfare systems, political aspects of the workings of economy and raise questions of world economic order and the transformations of the world economy.

Type of Instruction

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars and other assignments. Participation in seminars is mandatory.

Examination

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

Examination of the course takes place by means of oral and written exams and active participation in class.

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. Fx is not a grade and is only applied when a student is allowed to supplement their examination. Students who fail to receive the grade of Pass (i.e. they have received the grade of F) at the scheduled examination date will have the opportunity to retake the exam close to the original exam date.

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.

Credit 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: 1SH130, credit overlap 30 credits.

Other

The course is taught in English and a good command of the English language is required.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

List of references Module 1 - Perspectives on Globalization 7.5 credits

Baldwin, R. (Latest edition). *The great convergence: Information technology and the new globalization*: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 150 p.

Goldin, I., & Mariathasan, M. (Eds.). (Latest edition). *The Butterfly Defect: How Globalization creates systemic risks, and what to do about it* (First edition. ed.) Princeton: Princeton University Press. 150 p.

Graeber, David, and David Wengrow. (2021). *The dawn of everything: A new history of humanity*. Penguin UK, 350 p.

Harari, Yuval. Noah. (2011). *Sapiens: A brief history of humankind*. London: Vintage Books. 380 p.

List of references Module 2 - Democratization in the World 7.5 credits

Haerpfer, Christian, et. al (2018). *Democratization* (2nd Edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press. 476 pages.

Kendall-Taylor, A., Lindstaedt, N., & Frantz, E. (2019). *Democracies and Authoritarian Regimes*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780198820819

Articles (to be downloaded via the LNU-library). 200 pages.

List of references Module 3 - International Law 7.5 credits

Henriksen, Anders (latest edition). *International Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (376 p.)

Texts and articles provided by the Department of Political Sciences or via Internet databases. (Circa 600 p.)

List of references Module 4 - Transformations of the world economy 7.5 credits

Garland, David (latest edition). *The Welfare state: a very short introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 153 pages.

Hass, Jeffrey Kenneth (latest edition). *Economic sociology: an introduction*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. 256 pages.

Smil, Vaclav (2021). *Grand Transitions: How the Modern World Was Made*. Oxford University Press. 371 pages.

Articles (400 p) will be posted on MyMoodle.