



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Political Science

1SH20Ä Samhällskunskap I, för ämneslärare, 30 högskolepoäng

1SH20Ä Social Studies I, for secondary school subject teachers, 30 credits

### **Subject Group**

Social Studies

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2023-02-20

Revised 2023-03-08 by Faculty of Social Sciences. Revision of course literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2023

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements and English 6, Social studies 1b or 1a1+1a2. Specific entry requirements for the teaching subject: Mathematics 2a or Mathematics 2b, or Mathematics 2c, Social studies 2.

## Objectives

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

- identify basic issues in the subdisciplines of political science,
- explain the basic concepts and theoretical perspectives within political science,
- relate the concepts and perspectives of political science to the syllabus in upper secondary school for the subject social studies and the course syllabus for social studies in compulsory school.

### **Module 1 Political philosophy, 6 credits**

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- in general, summarise parts of the western political philosophy,
- describe the key content of ideas in contemporary political ideologies,
- distinguish and reflect critically on political philosophy of our time.

### **Module 2 Swedish politics and public administration, 6 credits**

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- explain important developments in the history of Swedish politics,
- describe the political system in Sweden,
- explain the fundamental building blocks of the political system of the EU,
- identify the concepts required in order to understand the function of public administration,
- describe the different levels of the Swedish public administration and how these are related,
- explain the relation between politics and public administration and describe the problems that may arise at implementation of decisions carried out by public administration.

### **Module 3 Comparative politics, 6 credits**

Upon completion of the module, student should be able to:

- apply main concepts to describe different forms of political systems,
- explain important developments within modern political history and evaluate their importance to the political developments in various countries,
- identify the driving forces that impact the political development and describe how the division of power is organised in different political systems,
- compare the political systems in different countries and explain the consequences these differences may entail.

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

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- explain the main theoretical perspectives in international politics,
- explain the growth and change of the international political system since 1945,
- apply theories and concepts to explain different phenomena within international politics.

### **Module 5 Didactical module, 4.5 credits**

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- identify and define subject-specific didactic issues in relation to the subject social studies,
- plan teaching in social studies based on the policy documents in force for the subject,
- analyse and give examples of assessment and grading in relation to the policy documents of the subject and the teaching content.

## **Content**

The course Social Studies I, for secondary school subject teachers (30 credits) includes four modules in political science and one didactic module, which contributes to continuously link the subject-specific content to the profession as a social studies teacher.

### **Module 1 Political philosophy, 6 credits**

The course begins with an introduction to political science, followed by a basic overview of a selection of the western political philosophy from the Antiquity to the present age. Special emphasis is placed on normative political ideas and main political ideologies.

**Module 2 Swedish politics and public administration, 6 credits**

The course starts with a discussion on the political system of Sweden and the modern history impacting its development. This is followed by a discussion on the institutions of the EU and their functions, and how these are related to Swedish politics and public administration. An introduction is given of the role of public administration in the political system, and its organisation and function. Concepts and perspectives useful for the study of public administration and administrative politics are also presented.

**Module 3 Comparative politics, 6 credits**

The political systems in various countries are discussed based on main concepts and theories of comparative politics. Important features include increasing the understanding of the driving forces that impact the political development and how the division of power is structured in different political systems. The differences between the political systems in the various countries that become evident during the studies are also discussed, as well as the causes of these differences and the consequences they lead to.

**Module 4 International politics, 7.5 credits**

The course starts with a discussion on the background of the historical as well as the contemporary study of international politics. This is followed by a presentation and discussion of the predominant theoretical perspectives applied to interpret international politics. The course looks into the empirical change within international politics as from 1945 and onwards, in an international as well as Swedish perspective. A number of processes and thematic field are also discussed, such as conflicts and collaboration, globalisation, human rights and diplomacy. A special section is dedicated to the EU as a global actor.

**Didactic module, 4.5 credits**

The didactic module applies a subject-specific didactic perspective to the course content. The teaching within the didactic module is practice-based, which entails that it is closely related to the educational setting through the participation of practicing teachers and by using authentic assignments and responses from pupils in the teaching to practice assessment of the pupils' knowledge of the subject.

*Professional, subject-specific didactic and scientific progression*

The students acquire basic knowledge of political science, and by the use of recurrent didactic reflection on the course content, the formation of a broad professional basis is initiated as a basis for advanced studies in the subject. Students learn how to plan courses and classes, and assessment and grading are introduced, practiced and problematised. The course also looks into the basic knowledge required to apply a scientific approach to the subject content of social studies. Students practice academic reading and writing, and the theoretical framework of subject-specific didactics is introduced.

**Type of Instruction**

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures.

**Examination**

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

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, the course objectives must be attained. The course is graded as a whole, but the modules are also graded. For a final grade of Pass with Distinction for the entire semester, at least 18 credits require the grade of Pass with Distinction and 12 credits require the grade of Pass.

Examination of modules 1-3 takes place by means of a written exam for each module. Examination of module 4 takes place by means of a written assignment, a written exam and participation in a seminar. The subject-specific didactic elements are examined by means of assignments given in eight seminars. The written exams in modules 1-4 and the written assignment in module 4 are assessed by the grades of Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction, and the seminars and the didactic elements are assessed by the grades of Fail or Pass.

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.

### 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: 1SHÄ02 Social Studies 1 - for Upper Secondary School Teachers, 30 credits.  
1SHÄ12 Social Studies 1 - for Upper Secondary School Teachers, 30 credits.

### Other

This course constitutes the studies in social studies in the first semester in the teacher education programme for upper secondary school.

### Required Reading and Additional Study Material

#### Module 1 – Political philosophy

Heywood, Andrew (latest edition). *Political Ideologies. An Introduction*. New York, Red Globe Press (308 pages).

Swift, Adam (latest edition). *Political Philosophy – A Beginners' Guide for Students and Politicians*. Cambridge, Polity Press (288 pages).

Additional scientific publications, excerpts from books and similar material are also included, approximately 200 pages.

#### Module 2 – Swedish politics and public administration

Blom, Agneta & Johansson, Johan & Persson, Magnus (2021). *Regionboken. Sverige på regional nivå*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 180 pages. ISBN 978-91-44-15492-3.

Möller, Tommy (latest edition). *Svensk politisk historia*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (200 pages).

Norén Bretzer, Ylva (latest edition). *Sveriges politiska system*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (260 pages).

Scientific publications are also included, approximately 100 pages.

### **Module 3 – Comparative politics**

Anckar, Carsten, Bengtsson, Åsa, Denk, Thomas & Karvonen, Lauri (latest edition). *Komparativ politik: institutioner och beteenden*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (320 pages).

Denk, Thomas & Anckar, Carsten (eds.) (latest edition). *Komparativ politik. Elva politiska system*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (391 pages).

Scientific publications are also included, approximately 200 pages.

### **Module 4 – International politics**

Baylis, John, Smith, Steve & Owens, Patricia (eds.) (latest edition). *The Globalization of World Politics. An introduction to international relation*. Oxford: Oxford university press. (648 pages).

Brommesson, Douglas & Ekengren, AnnMarie (eds.) (latest edition). *Sverige i världen*. Malmö: Gleerup. (215 pages)

Scientific publications are also included, approximately 300 pages.

### **Subject-specific didactic literature**

Långström, Sture & Arja Virta (latest edition). *Samhällskunskapsdidaktik: utbildning i demokrati och samhällsvetenskapligt tänkande*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Selected parts comprising circa 50 pages.

Odenstad, Christina (2010). *Prov och bedömning i samhällskunskap. En analys av gymnasielärares skriftliga prov*. Karlstad: Karlstad University Press. ISBN: 9789170633324. Selected parts comprising circa 60 pages.

Skolverket (2022). *Kommentarer till Skolverkets allmänna råd om betyg och provning*. See [www.skolverket.se](http://www.skolverket.se)

Skolverket (2022). *Läroplan för gymnasieskolan*. See [www.skolverket.se](http://www.skolverket.se)

Skolverket (2022). *Läroplan för grundskolan, förskoleklassen och fritidshemmet LGR22*. See [www.skolverket.se](http://www.skolverket.se).

Skolverket (2022). *Gymnasieskolan: Ämne – Samhällskunskap*. See [www.skolverket.se](http://www.skolverket.se)

Additional study material provided by the department also included, approximately 100 pages.