



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Political Science

1SK119 Internationell makt, säkerhet och demokrati, 7,5
högskolepoäng
International power, security and democracy, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Political Science

Subject

Political Science

Level

First cycle

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2020-04-29.

Revised 2026-02-04. Course literature revision.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2026.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

Objectives

After completing the course, students shall be able to:

- Describe the key concepts and knowledge within the research field of power, security and crises in international politics.
- Account for the knowledge of transatlantic security with special emphasis on the U.S. and the EU.
- Describe the key concepts and knowledge of states and international

- organisations as foreign policy actors.
- Describe and analyse topical security threats and crises in international politics.

Content

The course introduces concepts of and theoretical perspectives on power, security and the democratic peace in international politics. A fundamental issue discussed is how a stable and peaceful order within world politics can be established, and the foreign-policy role powerful states such as the U.S. and Russia as well as international organisations such as the EU and NATO have in relation to topical international security threats and crises.

Type of Instruction

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Examination

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

Grade A represents the highest grade, and the subsequent grades follow in descending order, where grade E is the lowest grade that qualifies as a Pass. A grade of F means that the student's performance is assessed as Fail. Fx is not a grade and is only used when a student is permitted to supplement his/her examination.

Examination of the course consists of three seminars including assignments, and a take-home exam.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course (E), all the examination assignments and the intended learning outcomes of the course must be fulfilled. To be awarded a final grade of D-A in the course, it is required that the grading criteria are fulfilled based on a weighted assessment of the grades for all the examination assignments.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels.

In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

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:
1SK115, 7.5 credits.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Apps, Peter (Latest edition). *Deterring Armageddon: A Biography of NATO*. Headline

Publishing Group, (624 pages).

Ikenberry, John G. (Latest edition). *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, (293 pages).

Rudd, Kevin (Latest edition). *The Avoidable War: The Dangers of a Catastrophic Conflict between the US and Xi Jinping's China*. New York Public Affairs, (432 pages).

Articles/books chosen by the students prior to the final paper, approx. 300 pages.