



## Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences  
School of Social Sciences

1SK195 International Democracy and Human Rights, 15  
högskolepoäng

International Democracy and Human Rights, 15 credits

### **Main field of study**

Political Science

### **Subject Group**

Political Science

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G1F

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Organisational Committee 2009-07-17

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2010

### **Prerequisites**

The course is open to students admitted to the European Studies Programme and to eligible international students.

### **Expected learning outcomes**

After the completion of the course, students are expected to:

- show solid knowledge of and comprehension for the notion of democracy, democratization and human rights;
- show solid knowledge of and comprehension for the favorable and unfavorable factors to democracy development and human rights protection;
- show solid knowledge of and comprehension for the contemporary situation of democracy and human rights in the world, with specific focus on the level of freedoms in Europe;
- show solid knowledge of and comprehension for how to conduct an independent study by gathering information, interpreting data, conducting analysis and presenting results.

### **Content**

The course is given within the European Studies Programme (180 SHEC / 180 ECTS). It is also given as a separate course for international students at Växjö University.

International Democracy and Human Rights focuses on how these norms play a pivotal role in determining European politics and European relations to the world. Europe is by far the most democratized region in the world; the democratization in southern and eastern European states changed the European political landscape in favor of

democratic governance, and led to a European zone of peace. This course discusses the favorable/unfavorable factors to democratization and human rights development, but also analyses European democracy and human rights promoters, and their impact on European and world freedom. This course includes an independent project. Students are conducting their own research supervised and discussed by the course instructor in the form of seminars. The project consists of developing skills on how to pursue an independent study to be prepared for a working career.

### Type of Instruction

The teaching methods consist of lectures, seminars and/or other assignments. The course is in English.

### Examination

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

Each module is assessed by a written and/or oral exam, which may be accompanied by a seminar session.

The grades are transferred to the following ECTS grades: A, B, C, D, E, F or Fx. In order to obtain the course grade of Pass with Distinction, this highest grade is needed for at least 15 out of 30 SHEC of the modules.

### Course Evaluation

A written evaluation is completed after the course, and it will be archived at the School of Social Sciences. The result and possible changes will be communicated to the students next time the course will be given.

### Required Reading and Additional Study Material

#### **Required reading**

Sörensen, Georg *Democracy and democratization - processes and prospects in a changing world* Boulder: Westview Press, 2008, 203 pages

Denk, Thomas, Silander, Daniel *Att studera demokratisering: fenomen, förlopp, förutsättningar och framtid* Santérus Förlag, 2007, 150 pages

Smith, Rhona K.M *Textbook on International Human Rights* Oxford:Oxford University Press, Latest edition, 349 pages

Freedom House *Nations in transit* New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2009, 655 pages

Material provided by internet and/or teacher, 200 pages