



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Social Sciences

1SK236 African Politics, 7,5 högskolepoäng
African Politics, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Political Science

Subject Group

Political Science

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Social Sciences 2011-03-16

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2011

Prerequisites

English B. Political Science 1-30 credits

Expected learning outcomes

Upon course completion the student shall be able to:

- demonstrate thorough knowledge of African politics,
- independently reflect upon and analyse contemporary issues relating to African politics,
- apply and relate theories in an empirical manner, and take a critical approach to current scientific issues within the field of political science relating to African politics.

Content

The course is designed as a basic entry point into some of the broad themes and political challenges in contemporary sub-Saharan Africa. Broadly, the course considers the legacy of colonialism, the making and frailty of the African state, governance issues and the persistent "underdevelopment" of African economies. In addition, a few case studies that touch on "hot topics" in recent African politics are examined: the politics of oil in West Africa, the land question in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa, and the challenges of democratization in Africa.

Type of Instruction

The teaching methods consist of lectures, seminars and/or other assignments. The course is taught in English. At some moments of the course, attendance may be

required.

Examination

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

The course is assessed by a research paper in combination with student participation.

The grades are transferred to the following ECTS grades: A, B, C, D, E, F or Fx.

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

Literature

Hyden, Goran (Latest edition) *African Politics in Comparative Perspective*.
Cambridge University Press.

Articles