



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Social Studies

4FU415 Internationell kontext och politiska processer inom fältet fred och utveckling, 7,5 högskolepoäng

The international context and the politics of peace and development, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Peace and Development Studies

Subject Group

Peace and Development Research

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2014-10-01
The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2015

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for studies at second cycle level and specific entry requirements:

- First cycle education, at least 120 ECTS credits in Peace and Development Studies or for the course other relevant subject within Social Sciences, Humanities or Economics
- English course B

Objectives

After completion of the course the student is expected to be able to:

- give an overview of the main themes in current international debates on issues related to peace, sustainable development and future international agreements on development
- give an account of main international, regional, national and local actors and institutions of importance for sustainable peace and development.
- account for the main theories of political development, good governance and democratization processes
- account for the links between political and economic development
- account for conflicts in developing countries
- analyse political structures, processes and actors in peace and development processes in a systematic and theoretically informed way and at local, national, regional and global levels

- critically assess and analyse actors, mechanisms and policies of international development cooperation/policies to promote democracy and political development
- understand how international actors can affect political aspects of peace and development in developing countries

Content

The module starts with a broad overview of current and future global economic, political, conflict and environmental developments. The goal is to provide an updated view on main current trends and challenges in particular for poor countries. Major international actors/organisations and their agencies are presented. A brief review is done of development since the Second World War – reflected through the emergence of different theories on peace and development. The module provides an overview of the key theories of political development, good governance and democratization processes. Links between political and economic development and conflicts in developing countries are discussed. Processes of peace and development are analysed as a political process. The politicization of conflicts of interest, power, identity, gender and religion is discussed. Different political structures, processes and actors in the peace and development process are analysed at local, national, regional and global levels. In this context, the role (s) of political parties, civil society, and new and old media are analysed. The challenges – and opportunities – the globalization process provides to existing political systems are discussed, as well as the issue of cosmopolitan democracy and global governance. Human rights, including the political, cultural and economic rights, and systems ensuring human rights at international, regional and national levels are examined. The actors, mechanisms, strategies and policies of international development cooperations to promote democracy and political development are presented and problematized.

Type of Instruction

Lectures, seminars and group work.

Examination

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

Grading is based on written individual and group assignments and seminars.

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 (i.e. received the grade F). Fx is not a grade and is only used when a student is allowed to complement her/his examination.

Students who have not passed (i.e. received the grade of F) at the regular examination will be offered a new examination shortly after the regular examination.

Grade criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the student through a special document. The student is to be informed about the grade criteria for the course by the start of the course at the latest.

Course Evaluation

Course evaluations are made through active dialogue with students during the courses as well as through a written evaluation system. Hard copies of earlier evaluations are available at the office of the Director of Studies. Evaluation results are discussed with the students.

Credit Overlap

This course cannot be part of a degree in combination with another course in which the content fully or partly correspond to the content of this course: 4FU401

Other

The course is given within the programme Degree of Master of Peace and Development Work, and as an elective course at advanced level.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Course Literature

Obligatory Reading

Burnell, P. J. and Randall, V.(2014). *Politics in the developing world*. Oxford; New York, Oxford University Press. 400 sidor.

Ewald J (2012). *Challenges for the Democratisation process in Tanzania. Mowing towards consolidation 50 years after independence?* Göteborg: Gothenburg University. Kapitel 1,2 och 9 (digitalt tillgängliga) (50 sidor)

Reference books

Heywood, A. (2014). *Global politics*. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

McMichael, P. (2012). *Development and social change a global perspective*. London, SAGE. (150 sidor, resten av boken används i följande kurs)

Todaro, M. P. and Smith, S. C.(2013). *Economic development*. (Kapitel 1 och 3, resten av boken används i följande kurs) (30 sidor)

Current reports from international organizations and scientific articles are added, ca 400 pages.

The reading list is updated regularly and the current list is available 3 month before course start.