



## Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences  
School of Cultural Sciences

4HI400 Kampen om historien, 7,5 högskolepoäng  
The struggle over history, 7.5 credits

**Main field of study**

History

**Subject Group**

History

**Level of classification**

Second Level

**Progression**

A1N

**Date of Ratification**

Approved by the Board of the School of Cultural Sciences 2009-06-16

Revised 2010-10-07. English translation added.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2011

**Prerequisites**

1-90 higher education credits in History, of which at least 30 higher education credits are from the G2E level, or the equivalent.

### Expected learning outcomes

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

- demonstrate a deeper understanding concerning the political and social roles of historical research,
- explain and discuss key controversies that have taken different forms and are expressed in different claims within historiography,
- critically discuss these claims, verbally and in writing.

### Content

Who owns history? Who has the right to write about it, and who and what should it be about? This course takes up questions concerning how the subject of history and historiography have been shaped and subjected to criticism from different directions, particularly during the last few decades. Focus will be on the struggle over what is perceived as history, about who has written it, as well as who it is about. The course continues building on the contents of the basic history courses in order to provide perspective regarding, among other things, the significance of chronology and themes in historical research. Starting with several texts read by all, students will then choose, after consultation with the teacher, a specialization within a current debate, preferably in

a field related to the coming essay. This specialization will be presented and discussed at a concluding seminar together with course participants.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is in the form of seminars and participation is mandatory.

## Examination

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

Examination and grading is based on oral and written presentations as well as active participation in seminars.

For students who fail to earn a Pass grade at the first examination opportunity, a maximum of four additional examination opportunities will be provided.

## Grading:

In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must assume an independent and motivated position, both verbally and in writing, concerning earlier research, as well as demonstrate the ability to assume a critical attitude towards the course literature. Students at Linnaeus University are entitled to have the course grade translated into the 7-step ECTS scale. A request to have the grades translated must be made to the teacher at the start of the course.

## Course Evaluation

Course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course. The evaluation is compiled, reviewed with the students and archived according to departmental protocol.

## Other

Upon request, the course may be offered in English.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

### *Required reading*

Aronsson, Peter, ed. (2000) *Makten över minnet. Historiekultur i förändring*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. ISBN 91-44-01358-2, 154 pages

Foner, Eric (2002) *Who owns history? Rethinking the Past in a Changing World*. New York: Hill and Wang. ISBN 0-8090-9704-4, 233 pages

McMillin, Laurie Hovell (2006) *Buried Indians. Digging Up the Past in a Midwestern Town*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press. ISBN 0-299-21680-2, 264 pages

Articles. Provided by the department, ca 50 pages

Choice of historical method book. Selected in consultation with the teacher. ca 150 pages

### *Elective literature*

Johansson, Roger (2001) *Kampen om historien. Ådalen 1931: sociala konflikter, historiemedvetande och historiebruk 1931–2000*. Stockholm: Hjalmarson & Högberg. ISBN 91-89080-81-5 (inb), 557 pages

Jones, Adam, ed. (2004) *Genocide, War Crimes & the West. History and Complicity*. London: Zed Books. ISBN 1-84277-190-6, 424 pages

Lerner, Gerda (1998) *Why History Matters. Life and thought*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-512289-5, 247 pages