



## Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences  
School of Cultural Sciences

4HI44E Magisterkurs i historia, 30 högskolepoäng  
History, one year mastercourse, 30 credits

### **Main field of study**

History

### **Subject Group**

History

### **Level of classification**

Second Level

### **Progression**

A1E

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by the Board of the School of Cultural Sciences 2010-06-17

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2011

### **Prerequisites**

NO VALUE DEFINED

## Expected learning outcomes

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

- independently raise scientific questions, choose literature and conduct a scientific problem discussion in both verbal and written form;
- criticize historical sources and scientific literature.

### **Module 1 Global Perspectives on History, 7.5 credits**

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

- conduct a scientific discussion about the larger context of world history;
- conduct a scientific discussion about past and present social forms;
- assume a critical attitude, both verbally and in writing, towards different perspectives on historical accounts concerning major processes of change.

### **Module 2 The Struggle for History, 7.5 credits**

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

- discuss the political and social roles of history research;
- account for decisive controversies in different forms and claims in historiography;
- critically discuss these claims both verbally and in writing.

### **Module 3 Thesis in History, master level, 15 credits**

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

- criticize historical sources and scientific literature as well as conduct an independent discussion in relation to your own research questions;
- display independence in relation to the gathering, evaluation and cultivation of different types of source material;
- critically and constructively examine presented theses in seminars;
- independently evaluate and critically analyse historical texts from different perspectives;
- communicate one's knowledge in different contexts.

## **Content**

### **Module 1 Global Perspectives on History, 7.5 credits**

This module deals with different accounts of historical processes of change. From a synthetic perspective, students will discuss and compare various historical societal forms from different parts of the world - feudal societies, transitions from feudalism to agrarian and industrial capitalism, communist social systems as well as the spread of global capitalism from the 16th century to the present day. Investigations will be specialised around two themes. Students will write a paper on obligatory literature, plus a book of choice from each theme, that will later be discussed in seminar form.

Tuition will be given in Swedish in the form of obligatory seminars.

### **Module 2 The Struggle for History, 7.5 credits**

Who owns history? Who has the right to write about it, and what and who should it be about? This module deals with the subject of history plus historiography, and how they have been shaped, but also how they have been the subject of criticism from different directions, particularly in recent decades. This module focuses on the struggle over what is perceived as history, who wrote it, as well as who it should be about. It builds on the content of basic modules in order to give a perspective on the importance of chronology and themes in historical research. By using some common texts as a basis, students will then choose a current debate on which to perform further studies, preferably within the subject field of the coming essay. Finally, these further studies will be presented and discussed together by course participants.

Tuition will be given in Swedish in the form of obligatory seminars.

### **Module 3 Thesis in History on master level, 15 credits**

Students will write a scientifically based thesis, and, in the form of seminars, critically discuss presented theses. An independent and critical attitude should be displayed in both the research and writing process, and also in seminar participation.

Tuition will be given in Swedish in the form of obligatory seminars. Each student will also act as an opponent on another thesis. Theses may be written in English.

## **Type of Instruction**

Tuition for each module will be carried out in the form of seminars. The thesis is an independent work whereby students are assigned a supervisor who will discuss and guide the arrangement, demarcation and result with the student. Students will defend their work in a seminar.

## **Examination**

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

## **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.

## **Required Reading and Additional Study Material**

Historisk Tidskrift 2003:2. Temanummer om synteser. Entire text can be found at:  
[www.historisktidskrift.se/documents/Historisk-Tidskrift-fulltext-2003-2.pdf](http://www.historisktidskrift.se/documents/Historisk-Tidskrift-fulltext-2003-2.pdf)  
Required reading: Berggren, Hirdman, Jarrick, Magnusson and Sjöberg.

Marks, Robert B. (2007) *The Origins of the Modern World. Fate and Fortune in the Rise of the West*. Lanham MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, INC. 220 pages.  
ISBN 978-0-7425-5418-4.

Ponting, Clive (2007) *A new green history of the world. The environment and the collapse of great civilisations*.  
London: Vintage. ISBN 978-0-09-951668-2 (paperback), 452 pages

Stavrianos, Leften Stavros (1997) *Lifelines from our past: a new world history*.  
Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe. ISBN 0-7656-0180-X (paperback), p. 3-250.

Selective literature: Choose a book within each theme.

Theme: Changed conditions of production.

Andersson, Perry (2004) *Övergångar från antiken till feodalismen*. Lund Arkiv. ISBN 91-7924-175-1, 310 pages

Castells, Manuel (2001) *Informationsåldern. Ekonomi, samhälle och kultur. Bd 1. Nätverkssamhällets framväxt*.  
Göteborg: Daidalos. ISBN 91-7173-150-4, 592 pages

Castells, Manuel (2000) *Informationsåldern. Ekonomi, samhälle och kultur. Bd 2. Identitetens makt*.  
Göteborg: Daidalos. ISBN 91-7173-116-4, 441 pages

Castells, Manuel (2000) *Informationsåldern. Ekonomi, samhälle och kultur. Bd3. Millenniets slut*.  
Göteborg. Daidalos. ISBN 91-7173-118-0, 453 pages

Held, David (1999) *Global transformations. Politics, economics and culture*.  
London: Polity, 515 s. ISBN 0-7456-1498-1 (inb).

Hobsbawm, Eric (1997) *Revolutionens tidsålder*.  
Stockholm: Rabén Prisma. ISBN 91-518-3303-4 (hardback), 452 pages

Hobsbawm, Eric (1994) *Kapitalets tidsålder*.  
Stockholm: Tiden. ISBN 91-550-4124-8 (hardback), 460 pages

Hobsbawm, Eric (1994) *Imperiernas tidsålder*.  
Stockholm: Tiden.. ISBN 91-550-3985-5 (hardback), 508 pages

Hobsbawm, Eric (2003) *Ytterligheternas tidsålder. Det korta 1900-talet: 1914-1991*.  
Stockholm: ePan. 452 pages. ISBN 91-7297-624-1, 696 pages

Theme: Criticism of culture and civilisation

McNeill, J R (2003) *Någonting är nytt under solen. Nittonhundralets miljöhistoria*.  
Stockholm: SNS förlag. ISBN 91-7150-918-6 (hardback), 455 pages

Merchant, Caroline (1994) *Naturens död. Kvinnan, ekologin och den vetenskapliga revolutionen*.  
Stockholm: Symposion. ISBN 91-7139-195-9 (hardback), 394 pages

Hourani, Albert (2001) *De arabiska folkens historia*.  
Furulund: Alhambra. ISBN 91-88992-56-X, 432 pages

Said, Edward (2000) *Orientalism*.  
Stockholm: Ordfront. ISBN 91-7324-794-4, 517 pages

Schama, Simon (1998) *Skog, landskap och minne. En civilisationshistoria*.  
Stockholm: Wahlström och Widstrand. ISBN 91-46-17424-9 (hardback), 370 pages

Zinn, Howard (1999) *Det amerikanska folkets historia. Makten och medborgarna från Columbus till Clinton*. Stockholm: Ordfront, ISBN 91-89291-03-4 (hardback), 632 pages

## **Module 2 The Struggle for History**

### **Obligatory literature**

Aronsson, Peter, red.(2000) *Makten över minnet. Historiekultur i förändring*.  
Lund: Student literature. 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. Supplied by the institution, ca 50 pages.

Selected methodological books in history. Are chosen in consultation with teachers. Ca 150 pages.

### **Selective 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, red. (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.

## **Module 3. Thesis in History Master Level**

Aronsson, Peter, Uppsats-PM i historia, see  
[http://www.vxu.se/hum/utb/amnen/historia/uppsatsPM\\_hist.html](http://www.vxu.se/hum/utb/amnen/historia/uppsatsPM_hist.html)

Jarrick, Arne & Olle Josephsson (1996) *Från tanke till text. En språkhandbok för uppsatsskrivande studenter*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. ISBN 91-44-26842-4, 129 pages.

*Svenska skrivregler// (Utgivna av svenska språknämnden) (2005)*. Stockholm: Liber. ISBN 91-47-05271-6, 220 pages.