



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Political Science

4SK103 Global politik, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Global Politics, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Political Science

Subject

Political Science

Level

Second cycle

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2015-11-25.

Revised 2026-08-19. Course literature revision.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for second-cycle studies in Social Sciences, of which a minimum of 30 credits in Political Science, or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing the course, students shall be able to:

- Account for central theory construction in development theories.
- Account for central theory construction and themes of how sustainable institutional solutions and good governance are established.
- Identify and problematise central issues within the course themes on the basis of normative grounds.

- Demonstrate a good ability to define and formulate an independent research problem within the scope of the course themes.
- Demonstrate advanced ability to independently and creatively carry out a scientific assignment.
- Demonstrate a good ability to account for arguments and conclusions, verbally as well as in writing, in dialogues with teachers and other students.

Content

This course is a specialised course based on previous courses within the subject of global and international politics, and is the basis of further studies within the field on the third-cycle course level. In this course, students will gain an increased insight into the development, depth, central concepts and perspectives of the research domain and the themes discussed on the international research front line.

The course mainly discusses themes on development and its normative basis. Examples on themes being discussed are the institutional conditions for democratic development and economic development, criticism aimed at the explanatory theories which dominated the end of the 20th century and the present conditions of increased political and economic integration of poor countries. Focus is put on long-term sustainable institutional solutions and good governance, as well as on underlying normative, religious and power political factors.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is conducted in the form of lectures and seminars.

Examination

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

The grade of A is the highest grade within the grading system, the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade of E is the lowest grade required to pass the course. The grade of F entails that a student's performances have been assessed as failed. Fx is not a grade and is only applied when a student is allowed to supplement their examination.

The examination is carried out by means of two seminars (comprising 3 credits) assessed by the grades of Fail or Pass, and one written exam (comprising 4.5 credits), assessed in accordance with the grading scale A-F.

In order to receive a grade of Pass (E), all the examination assignments and intended learning outcomes have to be fulfilled. The final grade in the course is determined by the grade for the written examination (A-F).

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels. In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the

previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course:

4SK407

Other Information

Information about the grading criteria for the A-F scale is provided to the students through a special document in connection with the start of the course, at the latest.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Acemoglu, Daron & Robinson, James (Latest edition). *Why nations fail. The origins of power, prosperity and poverty*. New York: Crown Publishers, (545 p).

Fukuyama, Francis (Latest edition). *State Building: Governance and World Order in the 21st Century*. London: Profile Books. (208 p).

Norris, Pippa & Inglehart, Ronald (Latest edition). *Sacred and Secular. Religion and Politics Worldwide*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, (365 p).

Willis, Katie (Latest edition). *Theories and Practices of Development*. London: Routledge, (274 p).

Scientific articles are also included, ca. 200 p.