Linnæus University

Dnr: LNU-2025/2803

Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Political Science

4SK403 Internationell säkerhet, 7,5 högskolepoäng
International Security, 7.5 credits

Main field of study
Political Science

Subject
Political Science

Level
Second cycle

Progression
A1N

Date of Ratification
Approved 2018-08-22.
Revised 2025-09-05. Revision of examination format.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2026.

Prerequisites
Minimum of 90 credits in a main field of study in the social sciences or economics, or an equivalent subject. English 6 or equivalent.

Objectives
After completing the course, students shall be able to:

- account for the theories of international security
- identify and problematize politically topical security issues
- define and formulate an independent research problem on the theme international security
- independently and in a creative manner, conduct an analysis assignment within

the field of international security
- orally as well as in writing, account for arguments and conclusions in discusssions with teachers and other students.

Content

The course addresses political discussions on international security and theoretical approaches applied to analyse the international security situation. Problematizing discussions are held on what international security entails for states and citizens all over the world, with special emphasis on securitization. On the basis of the overall course theme, one or a few topical security issues are discussed in detail.

Type of Instruction

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Examination

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

Grade A represents the highest grade, and the subsequent grades follow in descending order, where grade E is the lowest grade that qualifies as a Pass. A grade of F means that the student's performance is assessed as Fail. Fx is not a grade and is only used when a student is permitted to supplement his/her examination.

Examination consists of three seminars including written assignments (3.5 credits), graded as Pass (G) or Fail (U), and one on-campus written examination (4 credits), assessed by the use of the grading scale A-F.

To be awarded a grade of Pass (E), it is required that all the intended learning outcomes and all the examination components are assessed as pass. The final grade in the course (A-F) is determined by the grade for the written exam. Information about the grading criteria of the A-F scale is given in a separate document provided at the start of the course, at the latest.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-cycle and Second-cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

In the event 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.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Hough, Peter, Malik, Shahin, Moran, Andrew & Pilbeam, Bruce. (Latest edition). *International Security Studies: Theory and Practice*. New York: Routledge, 473 p.

Janzekovic, John & Silander, Daniel. (Latest edition). *Responsibility to Protect and*

Prevent – Principles, Promises and Practicalities. London: Anthem Press, 185 p.

Scientific articles also included, approx. 500 pages.