



Programme syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Social Sciences

Politices kandidatprogrammet, 180 högskolepoäng
Political Science and Economics Programme, 180 credits

Level

First Level

Establishment of Programme

Established by University board 2010-09-10

Date of Ratification

Approved by Committee for First and Second Cycle under the Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences 2010-12-08

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2011

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and English B and Mathematics C (field-specific entry requirements 4 with the exception of Social Studies A)

Description of Programme

The programme aims to educate students who will receive basic knowledge and skills needed for advanced administrative assignments and investigative services in both national as well as international public and private sectors. The programme also prepares students for further study at advanced level in political science, economics and other social sciences.

Objectives

Key objectives in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

Knowledge and understanding

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field, understanding of applicable methodologies in the field, specialised study in some aspect of the field as well as awareness of current research issues.

Competence and skills

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to search for, gather, evaluate and critically interpret the relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations, @@critically demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously and to complete tasks within predetermined time

- frames,
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work autonomously in the main field of study.

Judgement and approach

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues,
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and ongoing learning.

Program specific objectives

After having completed the Bachelor Programme in Political Science and Economics at the Linnaeus University the student shall be able to

- demonstrate the ability to conduct investigative and evaluative work and be able to conduct forecasting and projects,
- demonstrate the ability to critically and reflexively analyse various social phenomena and trends and to work both independently and in groups, and
- demonstrate an understanding of both other countries and cultures as well as European and global conditions.

Content

The programme is hosted by the School of Social Sciences. The programme coordinator has the overall responsibility for the programme organization, management and quality development. The programme council consist of the programme coordinator, representatives from the two main subjects, students and representative(s) from public and/or private sectors.

Program Overview

The programme begins with one semester of political science and one semester of economics. During the third semester, students study law, statistics and investigative methodology. For the fourth semester, economics or political science is chosen as a major, which is studied during semesters 4,5 and 6. During the third year, students study the bachelor course in the chosen major subject. The third year can also consist of studies abroad.

Programme Courses

Semester 1

Political Science, 1-30 credits* (G1N)

Semester 2

Economics, 1-30 credits* (G1N)

Semester 3

Law, 15 credits (G1N)

Statistics, 7.5 credits (G1N)

Investigative Methodology, 7.5 credits (G1N)

Semester 4

Major in Political Science: Political Science, 31-60 credits* (G1F)

Major in Economics: Internship semester, 30 credits (G2F), courses in any subject(s), 30 credits (G1N) or studies abroad, 30 credits

Semester 5-6

Major in Political Science: the bachelor course in Political Science, 61-90 credits* (G2E) and internship semester, 30 credits (G2F) or courses in any subject(s), 30 credits (G1N)
Major in Economics: Economics, 31-60 credits* (G1F) and the bachelor course in Economics, 61-90 credits* (G2E).

It is also possible to study abroad during semesters 5 and 6.

*Course in the subject majors

The main subjects have the following overall content:

Political Science

In recent years, major political changes have occurred in Sweden and in other countries. Within political science, politics are studied and how it affects human conditions. The European integration and globalization are two major areas of study. The state is often in focus but it is equally important to study how policy is shaped through the interaction of actors that influence policy content. Such actors includes political parties, interest groups, industry and media. Sweden's relations with the outside world and conditions in other countries are studied. Therefore, the whole world is the area of study.

Economics

The subject of economics studies how households, businesses and governments in a society uses its resources, and the impact of various economic and political decisions. Economics is also about relationships between countries, such as foreign policy and international trade. Issues such as unemployment, inflation, taxes, international trade, economic growth and income distribution are also being studied in the subject.

Work Experience

The programme provides both breadth and depth of academic education at undergraduate level in political science and economics and has simultaneously a broad vocational ambition that is not confined to a particular sector or a particular national perspective. The strong boundary between public and private sectors have increasingly weakened during recent years. The same applies to the intersection of national and international issues. Knowledge and understanding of international phenomena has become increasingly important in many professions. The programme therefore provides advanced methodological training that prepares both for study at advanced level and a career with relatively skilled administrative and investigative tasks in both public and private sector.

Employability and work ties are highlighted in particular by a number of substantive conditions during the programme. Students are given opportunities to work close to the surrounding society organizations or companies on a project basis. This is made possible in particular within the framework of the thesis. A mentor system where each student is offered the opportunity to have contact with a mentor from the workplace during the whole programme, will gradually be established. During the third year students are offered the opportunity to do an internship that will be presented in writing and oral form. The ambition is to set up a system of yearly recurrent internships. However, the School of Social Sciences cannot guarantee available internships, students must in general search for and find an internship on their own, which then must be approved by the program director.

Studies Abroad

Students are offered access to the entire range of agreements with foreign universities at the Linnaeus University. Semesters five and six in the program are most suitable for

studying abroad.

Scope of Programme

The program has a distinct international mark. The two main subjects are firmly established, both contentwise and researchwise, in an international context. A series of international topics are addressed in the two main subjects, and guest lecturers from foreign universities are invited to teach their own courses or to give individual lectures. The students are studying some elements with exchange students. Studies abroad during semester five and/or six is encouraged, and there is an opportunity for students to do an internship semester abroad. For studies abroad, courses should be relevant to the programme's focus. Furthermore, the program actively promote and deal with diversity, equality and ethical dimensions of sustainable development. This is done by through considering student group composition, teachers and staff composition and specifically through the content of courses and thesis projects.

Quality Development

The programme has a number of quality indicators to ensure quality. These include monitoring the graduating students (approximately every five years), monitoring teachers' pedagogical skills and research activity (each year), monitoring academic performance in each course, indicators of essay assessment, and follow-up on courses and the program through course and programme evaluations.

Student influence is of particular importance. This includes both representation in the programme council as well as active involvement in the development and quality assessment of courses, semesters and the entire program. Teachers are responsible for the course evaluations. The programme coordinator have the ultimate responsibility to evaluate the programme as a whole. It is therefore important that students participate in assessments of both courses and the programme. Any changes to the programme shall be communicated at the next programme start. Compilations of course and programme evaluations are filed by the department.

Degree Certificate

After completed studies in accordance with the objectives specified by the Higher Education Ordinance and the Linnaeus University Degree Ordinance, the student can apply for a degree certificate. Those having completed the Political Science and Economics Programme 180 credits can receive the following degree:

Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Economics
(Main field of study: Political Science or Economics)

The diploma is bilingual (Swedish / English). The degree certificate comes with a Diploma Supplement (English).