



## ACEP31, Asian Studies: Introduction to Asian Studies, 6 credits

*Asienstudier: Introduktion till Asienstudier, 6 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 2012-04-23 to be valid from 2012-09-03, autumn semester 2012.

### General Information

The course is the first course in the first semester of the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Asian Studies and can be followed as a single course in Asian Studies.

*Language of instruction:* English

The language of instruction and examination is English.

*Main field of studies*

Asian Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall:

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a good knowledge of the interdisciplinary field of Asian Studies, including insights in current research.
- demonstrate a familiarity with theories and framework for identifying, comparing and analysing social, economic, political, and cultural developments in contemporary Asia.
- demonstrate an understanding of the changing and contested knowledge base in area studies in general, and Asian Studies in particular.

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to apply a critical and comparative theoretical perspective on research on contemporary Asia.
- be able to critically and systematically integrate knowledge, handle complexity, and formulate judgments in relation to Asian Studies.
- demonstrate the skill of academic writing.

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to critically and independently engage in analytical reasoning both verbally and in writing.
- demonstrate an awareness of issues related to cross-cultural communication and study.

### **Course content**

The course provides a critical, comparative, interdisciplinary, and historiographically introduction to the study of Asian societies. It discusses methodological issues related to area studies in general and Asian Studies in particular. The course provides an historical overview of the field of Asian Studies and introduces students to central concepts and approaches in the Social Sciences and Humanities in relation to the study of Asian societies, paying particular attention to shifting contexts and contents related to forms of knowledge. The course offers critical perspectives on Western studies and knowledge formation regarding Asia. The course further discusses and analyses new theories and approaches emanating from the study of Asian societies, including post-colonialism and subaltern theories, which both challenge and enrich Western Social Sciences. The course also introduces perspectives from postmodernism and gender studies that provide students with tools to analyse contemporary Asian societies and sensitise them to underlying issues of power and representation.

### **Course design**

The course is comprised of lectures, seminars, group work and students' presentations. Attendance is mandatory in seminars and students' presentations, active participation is required.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on:

Individual papers (60 %).

Oral presentations and written documentation (30 %).

Active participation in seminars and discussions (10 %).

An opportunity for re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. A second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show **acceptable** results. For the grade of D the student must show **satisfactory** results. For the grade of C the student must show **good** results. For the grade of B the student must show **very good** results. For the grade of A the student must show **excellent** results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown **unacceptable** results.

Course components such as active participation in seminars and discussions are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for such components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass the student must show **acceptable** results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown **unacceptable** results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course

## Entry requirements

Admitted to the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Asian Studies. Students who fulfil the general requirement of having a Bachelor's degree in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Economics or Law can take the course as a single course.

English language proficiency demonstrated in one of the following ways: IELTS score (Academic) of 6.5 or more (with none of the sections scoring less than 5.5), TOEFL score of 575 or more (internet based 90), Cambridge/Oxford - Advanced or Proficiency level, or having a Bachelor's degree from a university where English is the ONLY language of instruction, or having received a passing grade in English course (Swedish secondary school).

## Further information

## Subcourses in ACEP31, Asian Studies: Introduction to Asian Studies

Applies from H12

1201 Introduction to Asian Studies, 6,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A