



Faculty of Social Sciences

CMEN04, Middle Eastern Studies: Field Course, 15 credits

Mellanösternstudier: Fältkurs, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Center for Middle Eastern Studies Board on 2018-02-02 to be valid from 2018-09-03, autumn semester 2018.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the third semester of the Master of Science (120 credits) programme in Middle Eastern Studies, 120 credits.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

For a Pass on the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate specialised knowledge of, account for and reflect on local conditions for practical fieldwork
- understand and provide an advanced and critical discussion of key questions with regard to data collection in the humanities and social sciences

Competence and skills

- formulate a research issue and write a project description for fieldwork
- execute a clearly delimited fieldwork project
- demonstrate the ability to collect and compile field data
- write and present an advanced report about field experiences and concrete results of assignments

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate awareness, handle and make independent assessments of ethical issues, dilemmas and considerations that field research gives rise to
- demonstrate a specialised ability to critically assess the applicability of current research, theories and methodology in the implementation of a fieldwork project

Course content

The course can either be carried out as an internship or an independent fieldwork project in or about the Middle East, according to the student's research interests and discussion with the supervisor. Internship can be chosen if it facilitates the student's experience of or access to fieldwork and data collection. During fieldwork, the student is to use the knowledge acquired in earlier courses. The student shall demonstrate the ability to perform set research and development assignments or collaborations and present concrete results of completed tasks. The course provides the students with the opportunity for an internship or a fieldwork project in a local context. Students shall critically review activities and their own work.

Based on the student's project description, and guided by the supervisor, the student is to identify and collect different types of data. Depending on the subject, data can be from:

literary, historical, political or other types of texts, interviews, participant observation, other types of fieldwork, online sources, radio and TV programmes, films, etc.

The course can take place at an academic department, research centre, thinktank, editorial office, environmental institute, development organisation, embassy, company, foundation or other organisation involved in social, cultural, economic, political or religious activities with relevance for the future degree project.

Course design

The teaching consists of supervision by a supervisor at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies and partly by a contact person. An individual project plan is formulated at the start of the course in consultation between the student, the contact person for the organisation/project or fieldwork, and the supervisor. The plan is formalised in a written agreement before the start of the field course.

Assessment

The course is assessed through a project plan as well as a written project report that is based on the executed fieldwork. The report is to describe design, implementation and results. The project report shall also contain a self-assessment of the student's work and a critical analysis.

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit exam for courses completed in the past academic year (catch-up exam). Two further re-takes on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

A student who fails the fieldwork has the right to redo the fieldwork course once. The whole fieldwork project must be redone and it is the student's responsibility to find a new placement.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

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

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

For the grade of Pass, the student must fulfil the learning outcomes specified for the course.

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 Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail the student 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 on the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must be admitted to the Master's programme in Middle Eastern Studies (120 credits) and have completed the courses on semesters 1 and 2 of the programme amounting to 60 credits, or the equivalent.

Further information

It is the student's responsibility to find a placement and to finance any necessary accommodation and travel, etc.

The course replaces MOSN15 Middle Eastern Studies: Field Course, 15 credits.

Subcourses in CMEN04, Middle Eastern Studies: Field Course

Applies from H18

1801 Field Course, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass