



Faculty of Social Sciences

## CMEN20, Middle Eastern Studies: Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7.5 credits

*Mellanösternstudier: Metoder i Mellanösternstudier, 7,5  
högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Center for Middle Eastern Studies Board on 2018-05-30 to be valid from 2018-09-03, autumn semester 2018.

### General Information

The course is a compulsory component 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 understanding of the epistemological foundations and qualitative as well as quantitative methods of research projects and account for the differences between various research paradigms
- use appropriate terms and concepts to account for the differences between different research methods and research designs
- demonstrate a specialised understanding of different principles and working methods for drafting a research plan
- carefully and systematically discuss and account for ethical and legal issues in the research area

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate a specialised ability to apply descriptive statistical methods including measurements of occurrence/frequency, central trends or changes, regular curves, relative positions and connections
- concretely and precisely select and formulate a research issue and formulate testable hypotheses, and apply techniques to test some of them
- use research material to perform different types of measurement and data collection, and apply methods to determine a material's reliability and validity
- demonstrate a specialised ability to identify and present a suitable method for a specific investigation

### **Judgement and approach**

- adopt a scholarly approach to take a position on relationships between theory, method design, measurement and analysis
- adopt a scholarly approach to critique and assess different research methods and take a critical position on distinctive properties in qualitative, quantitative and interdisciplinary methods
- demonstrate a specialised ability to evaluate strengths, weaknesses, possibilities and limitations in different research designs
- adopt a scholarly approach to critique and assess individual statistical data and statistically based studies.

### **Course content**

The aim of the course is to provide students with specialised knowledge of qualitative, quantitative, empirical and interdisciplinary research methods that are applied in Middle Eastern Studies. It provides knowledge of theories and practices of scholarly research as well as of research methods and research proposals.

The students will receive specialised knowledge of the research techniques required for data collection, interview analysis, investigations and observation, and analysis of database material. Furthermore, the students will acquire theoretical knowledge and practical skills within different aspects of the research process: from reflection, planning and drafting through data collection, processing, analysis and interpretation to the ability to report research in speech and writing.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in seminars is compulsory. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or retake compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

## Assessment

The assessment is based on 4 written assignments

Home assignment 1: 20%

Home assignment 2: 20%

Home assignment 3: 20%

Research plan 40 %

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.

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, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest grade for a Pass is E. The designation for a Fail grade is U.

The grade for an 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 have shown unacceptable results.

The grade for the course as a whole is determined by the following grading scale:

A = 92- 100 % of the total points

B = 84- 92 % of the total points

C = 76- 84 % of the total points

D = 68- 76 % of the total points

E = 60- 68 % of the total points

U = 0- 59 % of the total points

All assessed components are assigned points.

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, students must have completed 30 credits of semester 1 of the Master of Science programme in Middle Eastern Studies (120 credits).

### **Further information**

The course replaces CMEN10 Middle Eastern Studies: Key Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7.5 credits

## Subcourses in CMEN20, Middle Eastern Studies: Methods in Middle Eastern Studies

Applies from V19

1901 Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A