



Faculty of Social Sciences

FKVA12, Peace and Conflict Studies: Level 1, 30 credits

Freds- och konfliktvetenskap: Grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2012-04-12 and was valid from 2012-05-03, autumn semester 2012.

General Information

The course constitutes the first semester studies in the main field of study peace and conflict studies. The course is given as a freestanding course and in Swedish.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

Peace and Conflict Studies

Peace and Conflict Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

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Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should

Knowledge and understanding

demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of peace and war from a multidisciplinary attempt show knowledge of central issues within peace and conflict studies and basic methods and technologies,

Competence and skills

demonstrate the ability to choose and use relevant tools to solve provided analytical problems demonstrate the ability to compile and communicate results of a learning process in both written and oral form, demonstrate the ability to carry out basic information retrievals and have knowledge of simple reference management

demonstrate the ability to take responsibility for and plan their own study and learning process demonstrate the ability to cooperate with other in order to implement joint aims.

Course content

The aim of the course is to give a theoretical and empirical introduction to peace and conflict studies. The course includes four modules.

Module 1 The wars of the yesterday and the tomorrow/Past and Future Wars (7.5 credits)

The phenomenon of war goes through fast and basic changes then the end of the cold war. New political patterns, technical applications and socio-economic structures play a deciding role in this dynamics. In this module, the fundamental features of the thinking around wars and international conflicts are treated under the latest 200 years with a focus on the contemporary debate about the changes of warfare Central issues that are taken up concern international military interventions, origin and process of national conflicts, the relationships between war and media coverage and the development of new forms of warfare.

Module 2 Theories of wars, conflict and Terrorism/Theories of War, Conflict and terrorism (7.5 credits)

Wars can be understood in various ways depending on which theoretical perspectives that are used. Conflicts can also be seen from several analytical levels such as individual-, state- or system level. The aim of the module is to give a broad overview of different explanations why wars arise and to apply and highlight the theories from individual wars and conflicts. The course offers further a short historical account over the phenomenon terrorism and present different definitions of this type of violence. Finally, the theory tradition about justifiable war is discussed with a specialisation in both historical roots and the theory continued importance for contemporary conflict analysis.

Module 3 Public international law, armed conflicts and the United Nations, UN/

International Law, Armed Conflicts and the United

Nation (7.5 credits)

The module intends to give an overview of the public international law different functions of international conflicts. It includes an introduction to the mechanisms for disarmament and peaceful solution to international disputes of the classical public international law such as litigation and arbitration. States practice concerning armed interventions and the public international law rules under armed conflict and occupation are discussed. The antagonism between state interests and humanitarian considerations are highlighted in a context of neutrality, occupation and protections of civilian. Further, an overview is given by the rules of humanitarian law and the development against increased individual legal responsibility for crimes in connection with armed conflicts (such as ad hoc tribunals and the International Court in The Hague). Finally, focus against the United Nations, UN's different roles are directed. The basic ideas of the UN system, and how these renewals in practice will be highlighted in a political context of change.

Module 4 Conflict solution/Conflict Resolution (7.5 credits)

The module intends to give an overview of the research field conflict solution. The course treats various types of strategies for conflict solution such as negotiation, conciliation, crisis management and conflict preventive. These strategies are discussed from different actor perspectives such as states, international organisations and non-governmental actors. The module highlights also various types of reconciliation processes and peace building. Because this is required a long-term work with to build departments and meeting places for communication and dialogue in the local society. Reconciliation and the actors of the civilian society become important parts in this work. Educational projects and religious societies and women's role for peace will be treated particularly.

Course design

The teaching is given as lectures and teaching sessions and course introductions, seminars and group work. Participation in course introductions, seminars and group work are compulsory. All teaching assumes that the student participates actively. The

student should to the lectures have prepared reviews- and analysis assignments according to instructions.

Assessment

The examination takes place partly in the form of tasks under the time of the module, partly through written examination at the end of respective module. Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations.

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 following grades are used: A, B, C, D, E or failed. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a no pass 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 in the whole course is decided through a joining of the grades on the modules that are included in the course. The grades A-E are converted to numerical values that are divided with the number of modules and be rounded off according to mathematical principles.

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

Further information

This course replaces FKVA11, Peace and Conflict Studies: Basic course, 30 credits.

Subcourses in FKVA12, Peace and Conflict Studies: Level 1

Applies from H16

- 1613 Theories on War and Armed Conflict, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from V15

- 1201 Past and Future Wars, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1203 Theories of War, Conflict and Terrorism, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1205 International Law, Armed Conflicts and the United Nations, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1207 Conflict Resolution, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1209 Seminars: Past and Future Wars, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1210 Seminars: Theories of War, Conflict and Terrorism, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1211 Seminars: International Law, Armed Conflicts and UN, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1212 Seminars: Conflict Resolution, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass