



## **MOSN05, Middle Eastern Studies: Social Movements, Protest and the Public Sphere in the Middle East, 7.5 credits**

*Mellanösternstudier: Sociala rörelser, protest och civilsamhälle i Mellanöstern, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2012-07-02 to be valid from 2012-07-02, autumn semester 2012.

### **General Information**

The course is included as an elective course in the Master of Arts programme in Middle Eastern Studies (MESLU) at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies. The course is also offered as a free-standing course and can be included in a first- or second-cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Middle Eastern 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**

- be able to describe theories of civil society and the public sphere
- be able to describe the emergence of civil society and the public sphere in the history of the Middle East, both as a concept and an empirical reality
- be able to describe the background and historical processes behind the radical and revolutionary forms of social change characterising some of the social movements in the present-day Middle East

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to apply basic research methods and theoretical political concepts to analyses of processes in the Middle East in the past as well as in the present
- be able to discern how theories of civil society are applied in the agendas of present-day social agents
- be able to independently write an extensive (approx. 10-15 pages) report in correct English discussing civil society and the public sphere in the Middle East by applying relevant theories

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to critically approach and assess current research on the ongoing processes of upheaval in the Middle East (generally known as the Arab Spring)
- be able to evaluate their own written assignments from the point of view of their approach and contribution to the discussions of methods and theories in the course
- be able to identify their need of further knowledge and develop strategies for further learning on the themes of the course and relevant research.

### **Course content**

The aim of the course is to examine the emergence of civil society and the public sphere in the Middle East, with regard to both the development of social institutions and the theoretical political discussion of civil society in the Middle East. The 10 weeks of the course are divided into two components:

The first two weeks serve as an introduction to classical and current studies of civil society and the public sphere, in Islamic theory among others.

The second half of the course consists of four weeks of supervised individual study in which the student carries out an in-depth case study based on primary sources related to the empirical and theoretical perspectives of the course. It is recommended but not compulsory that the assignment is linked to planned field studies and/or project work.

The course is concluded with presentations and seminar discussions of the case studies.

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of compulsory lectures (approximately 6), individual supervision (2 sessions) compulsory seminars (approximately 4) and a compulsory written assignment which the student will have an opportunity to improve as a result of comments from the course director.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on students' attendance at lectures, active participation in seminars and the final written assignment (approx. 10-15 pages).

*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 passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is F.

Scale of grades

A = 92-100 % of total points

B = 84-92 % of total points

C = 76-84 % of total points

D = 68-76 % of total points

E = 60-68 % of total points

F = 0-59 % of total points

## **Entry requirements**

To be admitted to the course, students must have 90 credits (Bachelor's degree level) or equivalent knowledge as well as English B from Swedish upper secondary school or the equivalent.

## **Further information**

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Lund University.

Subcourses in MOSN05, Middle Eastern Studies: Social Movements,  
Protest and the Public Sphere in the Middle East

Applies from V12

1201 Social Movements, Protest and the Public Sphere in the ME, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A