



**MOSN20, Middle Eastern Studies: Multidisciplinary  
Qualitative Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7.5 credits**  
*Mellanösternstudier: Multidisciplinära kvalitativa metoder i  
mellanösternstudier, 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 2013-02-25 to be valid from 2013-02-25, autumn semester 2013.

### General Information

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

*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

On completion of the course the student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- be able to describe and place in a historical context a selection of key qualitative approaches in the social sciences, focusing especially on postcolonial, critical, feminist and postmodern methods
- be able to describe and problematise aspects of power in scientific descriptions of populations, focusing on the Middle East

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to apply qualitative methods for collecting and analysing data, such as different types of ethnographic field observations and interviews
- be able to apply methods for coding and analysing ethnographic data and texts
- be able to draw up a methodologically cogent and well considered research plan
- be able to carry out a minor but cogent and well considered field research project

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to critically assess the social sciences discussion on qualitative research among populations from non-Western ethnic communities and especially from the Middle East
- be able to critically discuss and assess principles of research ethics in qualitative research.

### **Course content**

The course provides students with a general introduction to and practical skills training in a number of qualitative methods and method discussions, focusing on methods that derive from late modern and postcolonial social sciences theory and research.

The course consists of a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars on the theoretical background and research applications of the methods. A minor individual field research project, focusing on methodological reflection and execution, is also included.

The methods discussed and applied include ethnography, life history research, community action research, discourse analysis and visually oriented methods. More specifically, different types of interviews, participatory observation, primary source processing and triangulation are discussed and applied.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures (approximately 12), seminars and workshops (approximately 3), oral presentations and written assignments (1 short project plan, 1-2 short reflective essays linked to the teaching and 1 more extensive final paper).

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on:

- the student's individual active participation at lectures and seminars (30%)
- one short project plan (10%)
- two short reflective essays linked to the teaching (5+5%)
- one more extensive final paper (approximately 8-10 pages, 50%).

*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 Fail.

Scale of grades:

A = 92-100 % of total points

B = 84-91 % of total points

C = 76-83 % of total points

D = 68-75 % of total points

E = 60-67 % of total points

Fail = 0-59 % of total points.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed MOSN08 or the equivalent.

## Further information

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

Subcourses in MOSN20, Middle Eastern Studies: Multidisciplinary  
Qualitative Methods in Middle Eastern Studies

Applies from V13

1301 Multidisc. Qualitative Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A