



Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SIMP17, Social Sciences: Introduction to Global Studies, 15 credits**

*Social Sciences: Introduction to Global Studies, 15 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

---

### **Details of approval**

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Graduate School Board on 2011-12-12 and was valid from 2012-01-23, spring semester 2012.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Sciences at the second-cycle level and as a compulsory introductory course within the Master of Science Programme in Global Studies.

*Language of instruction:* English

#### *Main field of studies*

Sociology

Development Studies

Gender Studies

Political Science

Education

Sociology of Law

Social Anthropology

Social Work

Human Geography

#### *Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- identify and critically reflect on globalisation as a form of social analysis
- locate, understand, and critically review theories related to globalisation and transformation as analysed in various disciplinary frameworks
- demonstrate knowledge of major economic, cultural, political and socio-psychological approaches to theories and concepts of globalisation
- formulate complex research questions on globalisation issues
- work effectively in an interdisciplinary context
- give informative oral and written presentations on globalisation issues
- communicate scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within the field of Global Studies.

## Course content

The aim of the course is to provide students with an interdisciplinary introduction to the field of Global Studies. This involves an understanding of current theories related to processes of globalisation and transformation, as analysed in various disciplinary frameworks. The course presents major economic, cultural, political and socio-psychological theories and concepts to enable the student to make informed, comparative analyses of how globalisation is related to social change and conflict.

From an economic perspective, the course focuses on how globalisation, development and economic growth are related to production, trade, investment and structural adjustment policies. The emphasis is on how a changed demographic situation and a transformed economic reality have challenged social, economic and educational policies at a supra-national, national and local level.

From a socio-cultural perspective, identity constructions and identity conflicts are related to the globalisation process. Theories of representation, boundary-making and the construction of social and political space in relation to issues of migration, nationalism, gender, race, ethnicity and other forms of identity are examined. The impact of these processes on democracy, welfare and human rights are of special significance.

From a political perspective, the focus is on the challenges provided by globalisation in terms of political participation, policy-making and the distribution of welfare within and between societies. Of particular importance is how globalisation has affected the role of the state in social and economic relations, as well as its effects on state sovereignty and security. Theories of international relations, conflict resolution, post-colonialism and gender are particularly relevant.

Finally, from a psychological perspective the course deals with the extent to which globalisation, migration and multicultural policies, together with more recent tendencies to define the world in terms of danger, insecurity and terror, have affected people's sense of security. Critical social psychology together with theories of socialisation and education are of particular significance.

## Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars, involving both teachers and students. The lectures have an interdisciplinary focus and students are encouraged to search, analyses and present literature themselves. Students give oral and/or written presentations in seminars of the literature and the specific topics. The course concludes with a series of seminars in which the students' course papers are discussed and examined.

## Assessment

Assessment is based on

- active participation in seminars
- oral presentations, individually and in groups
- written examination in the form of papers and critical reflections on the course literature

Re-examination is offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination is arranged at a later date.

*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 grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. 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 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 must 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 in the course.

## Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have 150 credits including a graded thesis for the degree of Bachelor or a completed major in the Social Sciences, or another equivalent subject.

In addition, the students must have a minimum average grade in their Bachelor's studies equivalent to 3.0 out of 4 in cumulated grade point average (CGPA), C in the ECTS grading scale, and B in the American grading scale. For students with Swedish undergraduate studies the minimum requirement is G.

English 6/ English B (advanced) proficiency, or equivalent.

## **Further information**

The course was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences on November 17, 2011, and the syllabus was approved by the Committee for International Programmes on December 12, 2011.

This syllabus is valid from the spring term of 2012.

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIMP11 Globalisation, Conflict and Social Change 15 credits or SIMP14 Globalisation, Conflict and Social Change 15 credits.

## Subcourses in SIMP17, Social Sciences: Introduction to Global Studies

Applies from H12

1101 Introduction to Global Studies, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A