

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2012-03-07 and was last revised on 2016-02-02. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-02-02, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

This course in Political Science is offered to students in Lund University's Bachelor Programme in Development Studies (BIDS).

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Political Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate the ability to

Knowledge and understanding

- identify the political dimensions of development policies and processes at different governance levels,
- understand how development is studied in the field of Political Science and account for perspectives, theories and concepts used in this field,

Competence and skills

- formulate a research problem in the area covered by the course and make independent use of Political Science literature in order to analyze the problem,
- create oral and written academic presentations on development politics individually and in groups and contribute to a common learning environment.

Course content

The course explores the political dimensions of development policies and processes with an emphasis on the global and national levels. We look into governance structures, institutions and power relations shaping current development thought and practice in areas such as poverty, health, the environment and gender. The course pays particular attention to relations between states, international organisations, civil society and private business in international development cooperation. A recurrent theme throughout the course is the intersection between the international human rights framework and development policies in a so-called rights-based approach to development. With regard to the national level, the main themes are democratization and state-building, aligned with questions on what development is and ought to be in those processes. The final paper is an opportunity for the student to engage in further analysis of a development issue raised during the course.

Course design

The course combines interactive lectures, where the main themes of the course are introduced and discussed, with student conducted seminars and a final individual course paper.

The seminars contain oral and written student presentations and discussions based on the course literature. The presentations may be group assignments and individual assignments. The seminars also include individual presentations of course paper topics.

Students are assessed on the basis of active participation in lectures and seminars during the first half of the course, and on the basis of the individually authored course paper during the second half of the course.

Assessment

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 to the course the student must be enrolled in the Bachelor of Science Programme in Development Studies at Lund University (BIDS), and have fulfilled course requirement of at least 45 credits of first year courses of the programme.

Further information

The course replaces the course STVC12, The Politics of Development.

Subcourses in STVC02, Political Science: The Politics of Development

Applies from H13

1201 Course Papers and Seminars, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from V12

1101 Seminars, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

1102 Course Paper, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A