



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **STVC62, Political Science: International Relations Theory in Time and Space, 7.5 credits**

*Political Science: International Relations Theory in Time and Space, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2011-11-08 and was last revised on 2011-11-08. The revised syllabus applies from 2011-11-17, spring semester 2012.

### **General Information**

This is a course in Political Science that is offered to first cycle and exchange students at Lund University.

*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**

Upon completion of the course, students shall have the ability to:

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

demonstrate knowledge of research problems, theoretical traditions, and methods in the study of international relations

#### **Competence and skills**

formulate a relevant research problem in the area covered by the course, and have the ability to theorise, generalise and discuss this problem

## Judgement and approach

contribute to a common learning environment and to group dynamic aspects of learning.

## Course content

International Relations Theory is a time-honoured approach to the social world. Texts that are clearly recognizable as dealing with international relations date back to the ancient Greeks. Still, most textbooks in the field take a geographically and historically very parochial stance towards its own field. It is easy to get the impression that IR theorizing is a fundamentally Western (or US) activity, that has taken place over the last 100 years or so. This course explores if this is true. The course begins with a discussion of IR theory as a social science, followed by a survey of contemporary Western IR theory. The course then expands our temporal and spatial horizon in search for IR theory elsewhere in history and geography. Examples include India, China, Africa, and European renaissance and enlightenment thinking.

## Course design

The course consists of a series of lectures and seminars. Students are assessed by way of active participation in seminar discussions, as well as by a portfolio, implying that they choose between a number of different tasks. The portfolio includes making an in-class presentation, the writing of a review essay or a research overview. All students should also write a journal in which they reflect on their learning process during the course.

## Assessment

In addition to regular examination, two extra examinations will be organised each term.

*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 the equivalence of 60 ECTS credits from studies in Political Science.

Subcourses in STVC62, Political Science: International Relations Theory in  
Time and Space

Applies from V12

1101 Course Paper, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A