

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2016-03-16 to be valid from 2016-03-16, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

The course is offered to students at the undergraduate level and to 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

After completing the course, the student should be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding

- Knowledge and understanding of research problems, theories and methods in the study of political parties and political behavior

Competence and skills

- The ability to apply these theories, methods and concepts in a critical way in the analysis of multiple aspects of political parties and political behavior
- The ability to reflect on methodological approaches and issues that are relevant to the scientific analysis of political parties and political behavior
- The ability to present written and oral analyses of political parties and political behavior in accordance with academic standards
- The ability to take responsibility for your learning process throughout the course by participating actively in group work, seminars and individual assignments

Course content

The course focuses on political parties and political behavior in democratic systems. The course falls within the broader category of comparative politics, and the purpose of the course is to deepen students' knowledge and skills in this area. Of particular importance are theories, methods and empirical results that relate to political decision-making in different political systems, with specific focus on political parties and citizens. Two salient themes that are discussed during the course are gender and right-wing populism insofar as they matter for political parties and political behavior.

Course design

Teaching will take place in the form of combined lectures and seminars coupled with a final, larger seminar. Participation in all seminar activities is mandatory.

Assessment

The course grade is based on participation in seminars, a take-home exam, a course paper and a group presentation at the final seminar. In addition to the regular examination, there will also be two opportunities for retakes of the exam.

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 final grade will be either A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is denoted by A and the lowest score for passing the course is E. Failure to meet the compulsory criteria of the course is designated by Fail.

Student performance is assessed based on the learning outcomes outlined above. For an E grade, the student should show a sufficient result. For the grade D, the student should demonstrate a satisfactory result. For the grade C, the student should show a good result. For grade B, the student should show a very good result. And finally, for grade A, the student shall demonstrate an excellent result.

These distinctions will be discussed orally in more detail in the first course lecture.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires completion of other political science courses that amount to 1-60 credits.

Subcourses in STVC74, Political Science: Parties and political behavior

Applies from H16

1601 Course paper, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A