



Faculty of Social Sciences

STVN15, Political Science: Social Policy and Economic Performance, 15 credits

Statsvetenskap: Socialpolitik och ekonomisk utveckling, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2013-06-13 and was last revised on 2017-12-14 by the board of the Department of Political Science. The revised syllabus applies from 2018-01-15, spring semester 2018.

General Information

This is a second cycle course in Political Science offered to students at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Political Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall demonstrate the ability to:

Knowledge and understanding

- identify, understand and appraise theories regarding the economic implications of various social policies and labour market regulations
- identify, understand and appraise how the economic implications of various social policies and regulations depend on socio-economic structures and institutional context
- apply knowledge learned in the course to the analysis of new cases

Competence and skills

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

Course content

This course introduces students to the interrelationship between social policy and economic performance. The course is organized in a historical manner to a large degree in order to enable a discussion of the particularities of different historical moments. The focus is primarily on advanced industrialized countries. After a few introductory weeks that chart the landscape of the relationship between social policy and economic performance empirically and theoretically, the course turns to the particular relationship between industrialization, on the one hand, and globalization, on the other, on social policy. Then the focus turns to more exclusively contemporary trends including the rise of the knowledge economy, the influence of international organizations, and the recent financial crisis.

Course design

Teaching includes lectures and seminars. Attendance to the seminars is compulsory and absences need to be notified to the course convenor.

Assessment

The assessment is based on (1) four written assignments (2) one oral presentation, and (3) a final course paper. In addition to the regular examination, two extra examinations will be organised every time the course is given.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

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.

The written assignments account for 40 percent (ten percent each), the oral presentation ten percent, and the final course paper 60 percent, of the total grade.

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

Students enrolled in the Master's Programmes at the department of Political Science at Lund University are eligible to the course. Students can also take the course as a single subject course, provided that they have 150 credits, including a Bachelor thesis, in the discipline of political science, peace and conflict studies, or an equivalent discipline. Students taking the course as a single subject course must demonstrate English B (advanced) proficiency in one of the following ways:

- A pass on English course B (Swedish upper secondary school)
- IELTS score of 6.5 (with no section less than 5.5)
- TOEFL paper-based score of 4.5 (scale 1-6) in written test and a total score of 575; internet based score of 20 (scale 0-30) and a total score of 90
- Cambridge/Oxford – Advanced Certificate of Proficiency
- A Bachelor's degree from a university where English is the only language of instruction, according to the International Handbook of Universities

Subcourses in STVN15, Political Science: Social Policy and Economic Performance

Applies from H13

1301 Course Papers and Seminars, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A