



Faculty of Social Sciences

STVP30, Political Science: European Governance, 15 credits

Statsvetenskap: European Governance, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-11-17, spring semester 2012.

General Information

This Political Science course is offered during the first term of the Master of Science (two years) in European Affairs. The course may also be taken as a single subject course in Political Science. The course provides theoretical and empirical knowledge regarding the political system of the European Union. It also teaches the methodological skills required for making independent studies of European integration. The course prepares students for research activities in the future, but also for professional employment in organisations in the public or private sector at the national or European level.

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

Knowledge and understanding

have acquired comprehensive knowledge of research problems, theoretical traditions, methods and research results in the study of the political system of the EU and its policy-making processes

Competence and skills

be able to independently formulate a relevant research question on European Governance, and have the ability to theorise, generalise and discuss this problem in an abstract way

be able to design, execute and reflect on all stages of the research process in Political Science

be able to summarise, review, evaluate and criticise other studies on European Governance

be able to communicate the results of learning and research processes to different kinds of recipients within a given time frame, both in writing and orally

be able to follow the development of knowledge in the research on European Governance, and master techniques for making proper academic references

have developed a critical attitude towards knowledge, learning, politics and society

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

Course content

The aim of the course is (a) to convey a theory-based understanding of European governance, that is, the political system of the EU and its processes of policy-making and (b) encourage independent in-depth analysis of current key issues in European governance.

The course is divided into two parts: an overview of the overarching themes of the course, and a study of a particular topic, related to the student's own interest within the themes of the course. The course presents and investigates four themes:

the development of the European project

the driving forces in European governance, elaborating on theories of European integration, as well as conflicting values in European governance and channels of interest mediation

the institutions of the EU and the operation of the decision-making machinery, focusing on executive, legislative and judicial politics

the output of the system in the form of markets, money and regulation; enlargement, justice and home affairs.

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures, individual studies, seminars and independent projects. Participation in seminars is mandatory. Assessment is based on:

active and constructive participation in the lectures and seminars

class presentations

an individual course paper

Assessment

In addition to the regular examinations 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 be admitted to the Master of Science (two years) in European Affairs. Students taking the course as a single subject course are eligible after passing courses of at least 150 credits in fully completed courses, 90 of which – including a Bachelor's degree essay – is in Political Science or Peace and Conflict Studies.

A high level of proficiency in the English language is necessary. (IELTS with a minimum of 6.0 (none of the sections under 5.0), or TOEFL with a minimum of 575p (internet based 90p) or having received a passing grade in English course B (Swedish secondary school) is required.

Subcourses in STVP30, Political Science: European Governance

Applies from V12

1101 Course Paper, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A