



Faculty of Social Sciences

## **WPMM40, Political Science: Master's (Two Years) Thesis in Welfare Policies and Management, 30 credits**

*Political Science: Master's (Two Years) Thesis in Welfare Policies and Management, 30 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-11-17 and was last revised on 2016-05-25 by the board of the Department of Political Science. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-05-25, autumn semester 2016.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as a compulsory course within the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Welfare Policies and Management. In the course the students write a thesis with an orientation towards Welfare Policies and Management.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Political Science

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course, the student shall have:

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- demonstrated knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrated specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrated the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information,
- demonstrated the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work,
- demonstrated the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences,
- demonstrated the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity, and
- demonstrated the ability to communicate scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within the field of welfare policies and management.

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrated the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrated insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrated the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

### **Course content**

The Master's thesis is an independent piece of work that addresses issues in the field of welfare policies and management. The work process is guided by a supervisor. Whereas the supervisor provides constructive feedback on the basic structure of the inquiry, the course represents an independent research effort, and responsibility for the final product rests with the authors themselves.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of individual tutorials and seminars. To complete the course the student must submit a thesis, written in English, as well as defend the thesis in an examination seminar. The student must also participate as an opponent on a thesis written by a fellow student. All students are expected to actively participate in the seminars and the tutorial sessions.

### **Assessment**

An opportunity for re-examination is offered after the end of the course. The student has the right to participate in examinations during the following terms, but in

accordance with the course regulations that apply at the time.

The time allocated for supervision is limited to the semester when the student was first registered for the course. Exceptions can be made if there are special reasons.

*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 requires 60 credits of coursework within the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Welfare Policies and Management, including profile courses for the programme amounting to 30 credits and 30 credits of courses in research methods (at least 15 credits) and theory of science (at least 7.5 credits).

## **Further information**

The thesis should be registered in an open access database belonging to Lund University. The level of publication is decided by the student.

## Subcourses in WPMM40, Political Science: Master's (Two Years) Thesis in Welfare Policies and Management

Applies from V12

- 1101 Master's (Two Years) Thesis, 30,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1202 Discussant, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass