



Faculty of Social Sciences

CMEN03, Middle Eastern Studies: Introduction to Middle Eastern Debates, 10 credits

*Mellanösternstudier: Debatter om Mellanöstern - en introduktion,
10 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Center for Middle Eastern Studies Board on 2018-02-02 to be valid from 2018-03-16, autumn semester 2018.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of semester 1 of the Master of Science (120 credits) programme in Middle Eastern Studies at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies.

It is also offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

For a Pass on the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate specialised knowledge of and account for different interpretations of social, political and cultural processes in the modern Middle East

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to describe and analyse current debates about the Middle East in different disciplines, such as sociology, political science, anthropology and international relations
- demonstrate skills to discuss important events in the Middle East within a current and relevant social sciences framework
- demonstrate a specialised ability to independently formulate research questions about the present-day Middle East. These questions must lie within the current empirical and theoretical literatures in the Middle East
- demonstrate the ability to formulate objective and critical views on current debates about Middle Eastern societies and cultures

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate a specialised ability to critically judge strengths and weaknesses in the arguments and positions that prevail in current debates about the Middle East
- demonstrate a specialised ability to critically judge strengths and weaknesses in arguments and positions that occur in prevailing debates in and about the Middle East
- demonstrate a specialised ability to assess the relevance of varying theoretical concepts in the analysis of the Middle East as a concept and on the basis of the geopolitical region

Course content

Students explore the major issues of the field and are introduced to significant debates about the Middle East from a social sciences perspective. These questions are to lie within the current empirical and theoretical literatures in the Middle East. Students will examine significant texts about the challenges of studying and writing about Middle Eastern cultures and societies. The course's broad regional and disciplinary specialisation aims to stimulate interdisciplinary dialogue and to familiarise the students with different geographic and national contexts. The course concludes with a discussion of the relevance of concepts to understand the modern Middle East.

In view of the historical development of area studies in general, the Middle East is discussed as a study area. Specific global developments that shape the field are discussed and students examine the approaches and subjects that have been developed over time through Middle Eastern Studies.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in seminars is compulsory. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or retake compulsory components. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

The course is assessed through written home assignments.

Home assignment 1 20%
Home assignment 2 20%
Home assignment 3 20%
Home assignment 4 40%

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit exam for courses completed in the past academic year (catch-up exam). Two further re-takes on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

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 highest grade is A and the lowest grade for a Pass is E. The designation for a Fail grade is U.

The grade for an unapproved 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 course grade is based on the grading scale

A = 92- 100 % of total credits

B = 84- 92 % of total credits

C = 76- 84 % of total credits

D = 68- 76 % of total credits

E = 60- 68 % of total credits

Fail = 0- 59 % of total credits

All assessed assignments are graded and their combined grades determine the grade for the whole course.

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 on the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the students must be admitted to the Master of Science (120 credits) programme in Middle Eastern Studies or have completed course requirements worth 150 credits or the equivalent.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

Further information

The course replaces MOSN14 Middle Eastern Studies: Introduction to Middle Eastern Debates, 10 credits.

Subcourses in CMEN03, Middle Eastern Studies: Introduction to Middle Eastern Debates

Applies from H18

1801 Introduction to Middle Eastern Debates, 10,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A