



Faculty of Social Sciences

CMEN12, Middle Eastern Studies: Islam from a Religious, Cultural and Political Perspective, 7.5 credits

Mellanösternstudier: Islam ur religiöst, kulturellt och politiskt perspektiv, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Center for Middle Eastern Studies Board on 2017-12-04 to be valid from 2018-01-01, spring semester 2018.

General Information

The course is an elective component of semester 2 of the Master of Science programme in Middle Eastern Studies, 120 credits.

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

To pass the examination, students must be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe the intersections between present-day cultural and political processes within Islamic discourse and symbolism
- summarise the basic theories on Islamic politics and anthropological perspectives on Muslim societies
- describe identity processes, democratisation and religious reform, as well as aspects of the significance of religion for grass-roots politics, state policy and culture

Competence and skills

- apply current theory on Islam's political functions as well as anthropological perspectives on religion, culture and gender
- critically discuss the societal influence of Islamic theology, rituals and symbolism in the Middle East today
- formulate independent analyses of the intersections between culture, religion and politics in the Middle East today

Judgement and approach

- interrogate and assess present-day religious reform trends in Muslim modernity
- evaluate the role of religion in contemporary culture and politics in the Middle East today, on the basis of current research and in a critical and summarising manner

Course content

The aim of the course is to enable students to investigate the intersections between and development trends of cultural, political and religious processes in the Middle East. Applying key theories and historical perspectives, the students are to focus on the significance of Islamic theology, ritual and symbolism for politics and culture in the Middle East. They will encounter examples of how these processes and perspectives interact in everyday life.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in seminars. 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 re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

Assessment

The assessment is based on two written assignments and service as a discussion moderator at one seminar.

Assignment 1 40%

Assignment 2 40%

Discussion moderator 20%

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit in the same year. Two further re-

examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the end 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 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 grade for the entire course is determined by the following grading scale:

A = 92–100 % of total points

B = 84–92 % of total points

C = 76–84 % of total points

D = 68–76 % of total points

E = 60–68 % of total points

U = 0–59 % of total points

All assessed components are awarded points which will be added up to a total on which the final grade is based.

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, students must have successfully completed 90 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

To be admitted to the course, students must have successfully completed 90 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.

Subcourses in CMEN12, Middle Eastern Studies: Islam from a Religious, Cultural and Political Perspective

Applies from V18

1701 Islam from a Religious, Cultural and Political Perspective, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A