



Faculty of Social Sciences

FKVA12, Peace and Conflict Studies: Level 1, 30 credits

Freds- och konfliktvetenskap: Grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2012-04-12 and was last revised on 2019-10-09. . The revised syllabus applied from 2020-01-20. , spring semester 2020.

General Information

The course constitutes the first semester studies in the main field of study peace and conflict studies. The course is given as a freestanding course as well as in the Bachelor's programme in Peace and conflict studies.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of studies

Peace and Conflict Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should

Knowledge and understanding

demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of peace and war from a multidisciplinary approach show knowledge of central issues within peace and conflict studies and basic methods and techniques

Competence and skills

demonstrate the ability to choose and use relevant tools to solve provided analytical problems demonstrate the ability to compile and communicate results of a learning process in both written and oral form demonstrate the ability to carry out basic information searches and have knowledge of simple reference management

demonstrate the ability to take responsibility for and plan their own study and learning process demonstrate the ability to cooperate with others in order to implement joint aims.

Course content

The aim of the course is to give a theoretical and empirical introduction to peace and conflict studies. The course includes four modules.

Module 1 the war of the Yesterday and the tomorrow/Past and Future Wars (7.5 credits)

The phenomenon of war goes through fast and basic changes since the end of the cold war. New political patterns, technical applications and socio-economic structures play a deciding role in these dynamics. In this module, the fundamental features of the thinking around wars and international conflicts are treated under the latest 200 years with a focus on the contemporary debate about the changes of warfare. Central issues that are taken up concern international military interventions, origins and processes of national conflicts, the relationships between war and media coverage and the development of new forms of warfare.

Module 2 Theories of war and armed conflicts/Theories of War and Armed Conflict (7.5 credits)

The origins of armed conflict can be understood and explained in various ways depending on which theoretical perspectives or explanatory approaches that are used. Conflicts can also be studied based on several levels of analysis such as individual, state or system level. The aim of the module is to give an overview of central theories and assumptions around the causes of in and intergovernmental conflicts. Different theoretical arguments will be applied on empirical cases of conflict and armed political violence to highlight central theoretical arguments as well as clarify the connection between theory and empirics.

Module 3 International law, armed conflicts and the United Nations

The module intends to give an overview of the functions of international law in international conflicts. It includes an introduction to the mechanisms for disarmament and peaceful solution to international disputes of the classical public international law such as litigation and arbitration. States practice concerning armed interventions and the public international law rules under armed conflict and occupation are discussed. The antagonism between state interests and humanitarian considerations are highlighted in a context of neutrality, occupation and protections of civilian. Further, an overview is given by the rules of humanitarian law and the development against increased individual legal responsibility for crimes in connection with armed conflicts (such as ad hoc tribunals and the International Court in The Hague). Finally, focus is directed to the United Nations and the different roles of the UN. The basic ideas of the UN system, and how these renewals in practice will be highlighted in a political context of change.

Module 4 Conflict solution/Conflict Resolution (7.5 credits)

The module intends to give an overview of the research field conflict solution. The course treats various types of strategies for conflict solution such as negotiation, conciliation, crisis management and conflict preventive. These strategies are discussed from different actor perspectives such as states, international organisations and non-governmental actors. The module highlights also various types of reconciliation processes and peace building. Because this is required a long-term work with to build departments and meeting places for communication and dialogue in the local society. Reconciliation and the actors of the civilian society become important parts in this work. Educational projects and religious societies and women's role for peace will be treated particularly.

Course design

The teaching is given as lectures and teaching sessions and course introductions, seminars and group work. Participation in course introductions, seminars and group work are compulsory. All teaching assumes that the student participates actively. The student should to the lectures have prepared reviews- and analysis assignments according to instructions.

Assessment

The examination takes place partly in the form of assignments under the time of the module, partly through written examination at the end of respective module. In connection with the course, three examination sessions are offered: one regular examination and two re-examinations.

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.

As grade, one of the terms A is used, B, C, D, E or failed. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. Grade for failed results is denoted with failed.

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.

Grade on module is decided by the result of the written test. The grade in the whole course is decided through a joining of the grades on the three modules that are included in the course. The grades A-E are converted to numerical values that are divided with the number of modules and be rounded off according to mathematical principles.

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

General and courses corresponding to the following Swedish Upper Secondary School Programs: Civics 1b/1a1+1a2, English 6.

Further information

This course replaces FKVA11, Peace and Conflict Studies: Basic course, 30 credits.

Subcourses in FKVA12, Peace and Conflict Studies: Level 1

Applies from H20

- 2001 Past and Future Wars, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2002 Seminars: Past and Future Wars, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2003 Theories on War and Armed Conflict, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2004 Seminars: Theories on War and Armed Conflict, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2005 International Law and Armed Conflicts, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2006 Seminars: International Law and Armed Conflicts, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2007 Conflict Resolution, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2008 Seminars: Conflict Resolution, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

Applies from H19

- 1901 Past and Future Wars, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1902 Seminars: Past and Future Wars, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1903 Theories on War and Armed Conflict, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1904 Seminars: Theories on War and Armed Conflict, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1905 International Law, Armed Conflicts and the UN, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1906 Seminars: International Law, Armed Conflicts and the UN, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1907 Conflict Resolution, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1908 Seminars: Conflict Resolution, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass