



MOSP20, Multidisciplinary Research Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7.5 credits

Mellanösternstudier: Mångvetenskapliga forskningsmetoder i Mellanösternstudier, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2010-08-25 to be valid from 2010-08-25, autumn semester 2010.

General Information

The course is normally offered as part of the Master of Arts programme in Middle Eastern Studies at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, but with the approval of the relevant authenticating body, it can also be offered as a free-standing course or be included in a professional degree.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Human Rights Studies

Religious Studies

Arabic Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to describe current theories on the social, political, cultural, economic, strategic, environmental and religious tendencies in the present-day Middle East
- be able to describe and apply fundamental concepts in quantitative statistics as well as basic spatio-quantitative concepts and to understand what a geographic information system (GIS) is

Competence and skills

- be able to discuss the prerequisites for planning a theoretically and methodologically well-informed research and development project with a bearing on the present-day Middle East
- be able to summarise objectively and from several points of view the current conflicts in the present-day Middle East and present and develop different views on them
- be able to scrutinise quantitative statistical data critically and, independently and in groups, reflect on and discuss strengths and weaknesses of analyses and presentations; furthermore, the student shall be able to apply quantitative data for statistical analysis and visualisation, both generally and spatially with the help of GIS
- be able to develop and set objectives for their own studies on the programme and produce a written research project plan in consultation with a supervisor

Judgement and approach

- be able to analyse and assess social situations marked by conflicts, social marginalisation and human suffering objectively, empathetically and from several points of view
- be able to assess analyses, security considerations and practical work with development, business and industry and diplomacy from the point of view of research ethics.

Course content

The course provides students with the opportunity to develop a theoretical approach and skills for research planning and analysis as well as for practically oriented social development projects.

Lectures and seminars introduce students to key theories in sociology, anthropology, islamology and political science and to examples of analytical application. Students get the opportunity to develop their ability to adapt theories, research methods and ethical consideration to different contexts in the Middle East, as well as within migrant communities from the region.

Furthermore, students will be introduced to and reflect on working methods and points of departure for projects in the present-day Middle East concerned with development work, business and industry, political procedures, diplomacy, conflict management and development assistance, together with lecturers with experience of such areas.

In the "quantitative methods" component, statistical data will be treated for an example in the Middle East based on a geographical information system (GIS). Official

data will be explained from a statistical perspective and visualised by means of figures, diagrams and maps. The focus will be placed on the problems and possibilities of analysing and presenting quantitative data.

Finally, students are given the opportunity to discuss the structure of their future studies on the programme, including work placements, field studies and project work, together with a supervisor.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and compulsory seminars.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the students' individual and active participation at seminars, two continuous written assignments tied to the different stages of the course and a final written assignment.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

To be awarded a Pass on the course, students must have completed all assignments within the time span allotted to each.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed MOSP10.

Subcourses in MOSP20, Multidisciplinary Research Methods in Middle Eastern Studies

Applies from H10

1001 Multidisciplinary Research Methods in Middle Eastern Studies, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction