



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMP01, Social Sciences: Introduction to Global Studies, 15 credits

Samhällsvetenskap: Introduktion till globala studier, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2021-02-25 and was last revised on 2024-02-27. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2024-02-27 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Sciences and is a compulsory component within the Master of Science Programme in Global Studies (SAGLS), 120 credits.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of study</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>
Social Work	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Political Science	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology of Law	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Gender Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Development Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Anthropology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Human Geography	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Media and Communication Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate the ability to identify and critically reflect upon how different aspects of globalisation, as a form of social and political analysis, can be theorised within specific academic disciplines;
- demonstrate the ability to locate, understand, and critically review theories and research within the interdisciplinary study of globalisation as well as the student's own discipline.

Competence and skills

- analyse relevant social phenomena in a systematic manner using the key concepts acquired during the course;
- formulate complex research questions regarding globalisation;
- use globalisation as an analytical tool in assignments, in the final paper, and in research proposals;
- analyse questions of globalisation in the broad fields of global governance, the state, security, gender, crisis, media and development;
- work effectively in an interdisciplinary context;
- Give informative oral and written presentations on globalisation issues;
- communicate scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within the field of Global Studies.

Judgement and approach

- Critically evaluate scholarship on global studies by drawing upon a range of interdisciplinary perspective;
- evaluate the benefits and shortcomings of theories of empirical approaches to the specific study of globalisation.

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide the student with an interdisciplinary introduction to the field of Global Studies. The student will be introduced to a range of critical, theoretical, and empirical approaches to global studies, with focus on different aspects of globalisation, global relations, and global transformative processes, drawing upon several disciplinary fields. More specifically, the student will acquire insight and skills pertaining to security, cultural, political, gender, and development-based theories and concepts to enable them to make informed, comparative analyses of how globalisation and global relations are related to social change and conflict. The

student will learn about the wide array of theoretical and empirical approaches to globalisation and related processes. Furthermore, the student will learn how to approach globalisation from multiple global, national, and theoretical contextual perspectives. The student is also encouraged to apply their received knowledge to their distinct fields of study.

The course will help the student to acquire interdisciplinary skills in the study of globalisation, which will strengthen their ability to apply a variety of critical perspectives to their distinct field of study. The student will be introduced to the ways in which globalisation, broadly defined, is studied within gender studies, post-colonialism, security studies, the study of crisis, media studies, global governance, and development studies. Hence, the course will enable the student to acquire theoretical and methodological skills and to expand their understanding of different expressions of globalisation. More specifically, the course will examine the following broad areas:

- theories of globalisation, global governance, and media;
- globalisation, the state, security, and sovereignty;
- gender and globalisation;
- globalisation and crisis;
- globalisation and development

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars. The lectures are interdisciplinary and teacher-led, though with opportunities for students to interact with their peers and the teacher in question. As such students are encouraged to make contributions by sharing their interpretations of the topic at hand and course readings with their peers and the teacher teaching the lecture. The seminars primarily are based on student-led activities including debates, role plays, and group discussions, with the teacher supporting such work in the classroom. The student will also give oral presentations in seminars, focusing on key aspects of the literature and the specific topics. At those seminars, the focus will be on a range of theoretical and empirical disciplinary aspects of globalisation. At the seminars the teacher(s) will offer friendly and constructive feedback to the students, who are also encouraged to offer each other feedback. The student will author two brief assignments and receive feedback on those via Canvas. The course includes two advisory and final seminars at which the student's planned final course paper is discussed through peer and teacher-led feedback.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation in seminars is required. 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

Assessment is based on:

- one final course paper (12-credits)
- one group presentation (3-credits)

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination, and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that academic school year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year at 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

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 final paper counts for 12 credits of the overall grade of the course and the group presentation counts for 3 credits. The grade for the entire course consists of an average grade of the assessed assignments (A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, E=1) divided by the number of credits awarded for each component. For a grade of Pass on the entire course, the student must have been awarded at least E on all assessments for which the grading scale A-E+Fail applies. The student must also have participated in all compulsory components.

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 to the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed 150 credits including a Bachelor's degree project in Development Studies, Gender Studies, Human Geography, Media and Communication Studies, Political Science, Social Anthropology, Social Work, Sociology, Sociology of Law, or the equivalent.

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

Further information

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIMP11: Globalisation, Conflict and Social Change, 15 credits, SIMP14: Globalisation, Conflict and Social Change, 15 credits or SIMP17: Introduction to Global Studies, 15 credits.