



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMS22, Social Sciences: Integration: International Relations and the Making of a Global World, 15 credits

*Sammhällsvetenskap: Integration: Internationella relationer och
skapandet av en global värld, 15 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2018-02-26 to be valid from 2018-09-03, autumn semester 2018.

General Information

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Sciences, at the second-cycle level, and as an optional course within the Master of Science Programmes in Development Studies, Global Studies and Social Studies of Gender.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of studies</i>	<i>Depth of study relative to the degree requirements</i>
Political Science	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Education	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Work	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
Sociology of Law	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
Sociology	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

Development Studies

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate fundamental knowledge of the history of the international system from global perspectives
- identify a variety of practices involved in integrating the world into a global international state system such as imperial expansion, economic globalization and international norms diffusion
- discuss several scholarly, theoretical approaches for understanding integration and the making of the global world
- relate the historical development of the international system to aspects of present-day world politics and international relations

Competence and skills

- interrogate the explicit and implicit assumptions used in scholarly theories such as constructivism, postcolonialism and world-systems theory
- synthesize competing theoretical perspectives
- identify and evaluate evidence used to make arguments
- raise and debate complex and contentious questions related to global politics in a constructive manner
- communicate their own ideas/arguments within a given time frame and with clarity and coherence, both orally and in writing
- collaborate with peers and contribute to a shared learning environment
- assess the quality of their own work and the work of their peers

Judgement and approach

- evaluate the relative importance of different practices involved in integrating the world into a global system
- apply scholarly theories and concepts studied during the course to understand and analyze international politics and history
- critically reflect on the historical legacies of varied processes of global integration

Course content

This course focuses on the historical origins of the global, international state system in order to better understand challenges facing the world today. In a complex and fast moving global climate, the deep approach to international history and politics offered in this course will help students understand why the world looks the way it does and provide them with the tools to analyze it. We will consider a range of different processes tied to the emergence of the global world in the long nineteenth century and beyond, including, but not limited to, economic, military, legal, normative, cultural, linguistic and institutional practices. These practices and processes are examined from a number of different theoretical perspectives and on a variety of

analytical levels and scales. Students will be introduced to central issues in current and (to a lesser extent) past scholarly debates regarding the origins of the global international state system, key concepts and analytical tools. More specifically, the course will examine the following themes:

- the relative importance of military power to Western, imperial expansion versus knowledge construction
- the relationship between international law and subordination of non-Western states
- the agency of non-Western states
- the extent to which contemporary economic globalization is a categorical departure from “integration” in earlier historical periods
- the co-constitutive relationship between individual states and the international system, including the relationship between the character of post-colonial statehood and the international system

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars which are thematically linked. The lectures have an interdisciplinary focus, offer background knowledge and will help students orient themselves towards existing scholarship on the topic. The seminars focus on critically evaluating scholarly approaches and students will give oral and written presentations.

Memo Writing and Discussion Leadership – each week, two students will produce a single written document that will serve as a foundation for seminar discussion. Each week’s memo writers are also responsible for helping facilitate in-class discussion.

“Author’s Defendant” Role – once during the semester, each student will be assigned the role of “author’s defendant” and should be able to defend the merits of the week’s readings in seminar. This task includes serving as “resident expert” on the text, so that you can be called on to explain or clarify questions other students or the instructor may have about the readings.

Participation in Seminars – students are expected to attend every session, to have done the required readings in advance, and to participate actively and constructively in discussions, even on weeks when they are not memo writers or author defendants.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation in the above mentioned 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 a final course paper.

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 school 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 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.

To receive a passing grade on the course, 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 on the course.

Entry requirements

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

Subcourses in SIMS22, Social Sciences: Integration: International Relations and the Making of a Global World

Applies from H18

1801 International Relations and the making of a global world, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A