



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMS40, AI in Society, 15 credits

AI i samhället, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2019-11-26 and was last revised on 2021-02-25. The revised syllabus applies from 2021-08-30, autumn semester 2021.

General Information

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Science at the second-cycle level and as an optional course within the Master Programmes in Global Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Development Studies and Social Studies of Gender, as well as other Master's programmes within the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

Social Work

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

Middle Eastern 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

Political Science

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

Gender Studies

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

Social Anthropology

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 extensive knowledge of different social science and humanities perspectives on Artificial Intelligence in society.
- Demonstrate the ability to make assessments of central aspects of Artificial Intelligence in society based on relevant scholarly and ethical considerations.

Competence and skills

- Demonstrate the ability to apply theories of social science and the humanities in analyses of Artificial Intelligence in society.
- Demonstrate the ability to relate contemporary social problems to the social science and humanities studies of Artificial Intelligence.

Judgement and approach

- Demonstrate the ability to formulate a research problem and carry out a minor scientific study in the field of Artificial Intelligence in society within a given time frame.
- Demonstrate the ability to contribute to a common learning environment and to aspects of group dynamics in learning processes.

Course content

Artificial Intelligence (AI) could be defined as systems which show intelligent behaviour by analysing their environment and with some degree of autonomy act to reach certain goals. AI has become an umbrella term for information technology, robotics, and digitalisation more broadly, including machine learning techniques enabling computers to improve themselves.

The aim of this course is to provide a multifaceted theory-based understanding of AI in society and to prepare the student to critically reflect upon the ongoing expansion of AI and the consequences of AI applications on humans and institutions. This is a multidisciplinary course offering perspectives on AI in society from several social science disciplines as well as perspectives from the humanities, providing a wide-ranging understanding of AI in a societal context. Themes covered by the course include: use and misuse of AI technology, intended and unintended effects, governance and regulation, and international relations.

Course design

Teaching is given in the form of lectures, seminars, and supervision.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, seminar participation is compulsory. Students who have been unable to participate according to the

expectations of the respective seminar 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 course is examined through an individual course paper.

The individual course paper is written from one or more of the perspectives presented during the course, chosen by the student together with the examiner. The course paper should reflect a research process in which the student formulates a scientific problem within the selected perspective/s, makes use of relevant course literature and collects and processes additional empirical and theoretical material to analyse this problem. The course papers are presented at a final seminar in which the student discusses another student's 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.

Grading is based on the quality of the individual course paper.

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.

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 eligible for the course the student must have 150 credits including a graded thesis for the degree of Bachelor, or a completed major, in the Social Sciences, or another equivalent subject.

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 SIMS40, AI in Society

Applies from H20

2001 AI in Society, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A