



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

STVC82, Political Science: Critical Security Studies, 7.5 credits *Statsvetenskap: Kritiska säkerhetsstudier, 7,5 högskolepoäng* First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2023-03-22 to be valid from 2023-08-28, autumn semester 2023.

General Information

The course constitutes an elective alternative course during the third semester's studies in political science.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Political Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

For a Pass on the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- Show a broad understanding of the meaning of security beyond armed conflict to also include other (in)security challenges (such as mobility, climate change, humanitarian interventions);
- Identify and compare traditional and critical perspectives in Security Studies;
- Analyse global and interpersonal (in)securities from a variety of critical perspectives;
- Get familiar with critical epistemologies, theories, debates and methods for the analysis of (in)securities;
- Assess how gender, race and class are forms of power around which debates about securities and insecurities are organised;

Competence and skills

- Develop the ability to contribute actively to collective knowledge building in the classroom and to Critical Security Studies as a subject area;
- Use critical perspectives in Security Studies to analyze, deconstruct and contribute to contemporary debates around (in)securities;
- Demonstrate independence in formulating and presenting research ideas both in writing and orally, in an informed, persuasive and creative way;

Judgement and approach

- Reflect on the implications of adopting critical, feministic and decolonial perspectives in Security Studies;
- Identify how to integrate into research an analysis of insecurities that would account for the intersection of gender, race, class and other markers of oppression;
- Reflect on their own understanding of security and identify their own biases and limitations.

Course content

What is (in)security? Who are the subjects and objects of insecurity in contemporary politics? What is the role of gender, race and class in creating different forms of (in)securities? The objective of the course Critical security studies is to analyse the concept of security in Political Science and International Relations and offer a radical rethinking of it from critical theories. Starting from an understanding of mainstream debates in Security Studies, the course aims to both broaden what is considered security-related topics (by going beyond armed conflict and the military) and change the ways in which we analyse them. To do so, this course approaches the concept of security with theoretical and methodological lenses, thus using creative, art-based and narrative methods. With this course, students will familiarize with contemporary security issues and learn to formulate research problems relevant to global and everyday (in)securities from critical perspectives.

Course design

Teaching consists of interactive lectures and workshops. The course is based on a collective knowledge-building methodology. Therefore, active and continuous participation is a fundamental building block in the course. Lectures and workshops are compulsory. A student who due to circumstances beyond his or her own control is prevented from participating in a compulsory element is offered an equivalent alternative to or other time for the missed element.

Assessment

The course is examined through active participation in the activities that are held during the workshops, compulsory written assignments (40 % of the final grade) and a final paper (60 % of the final grade).

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 year. Within a year after a major change to the course or its cancellation, at least two further opportunities for assessment are offered on the same course content. 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.

As grade, one of the grades A, B, C, D, E or Failed is used. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. 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 sufficient 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 will have shown insufficient 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 in the course.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires passed studies in political science of 60 credits (STVA14 and STVA23 or equivalent).

Subcourses in STVC82, Political Science: Critical Security Studies

Applies from H23

- 2301 Oral participation, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2302 Written assignments, 3,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2303 Final paper, 4,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A