



Faculty of Social Sciences

STVC83, Political Science: Comparative Public Policy, 7.5 credits

Statsvetenskap: Policyprocesser i ett jämförande perspektiv, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2024-04-17. The syllabus comes into effect 2024-09-02 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is an elective course during the third semester studies in political science and is open to exchange students at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

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

Learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student should be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate knowledge of concepts, theories, and research methods used in comparative public policy
- Demonstrate an understanding of how different research questions and agendas draw on various concepts, theories, and methods

Competence and skills

- Identify and critically appraise examples of comparative public policy research
- Identify publicly available documents and data of relevance to comparative public policy research

- Apply research methods and analyse data in the context of comparative public policy research problems

Judgement and approach

- Consider and justify the relevance of different research methods for research problems relevant to comparative public policy research
- Design a research project within comparative public policy that applies appropriate concepts, theories, and methods

Course content

The course aims to introduce students to the main theories and research agendas in comparative public policy with the goal of enabling them to apply these theories to their own research. To that end, it provides students with relevant conceptual and theoretical knowledge related to mainstream research agendas and engages them in exercises to analyze how these allow for the creation of new knowledge around questions related to comparative public policy.

Course design

The course is organised around a series of lectures and seminars. Lectures will cover core concepts, theories, and methods drawing on contemporary examples of comparative public policy. Seminars will provide opportunities to apply, collectively discuss and critically reflect on the lectures. Students are expected to work individually as well as in groups.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in the seminars and the oral presentation of the written group take-home exam. 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 on the course consists of:

- One written group paper and oral presentation (40 % of grade)
- One written individual paper (60 % of grade)

The course offers regular exams, re-examinations in close proximity to the regular exams, as well as a third exam opportunity. Within one year of the course having undergone a major change or is discontinued, at least two additional examinations are offered on the same course content. Thereafter, the student is offered additional examinations but in accordance with the current 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 student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. 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.

The grading scale includes the grades Fail, E, D, C, B, A. The highest grade is denoted with A and the lowest grade for approved results with E. Grades for unapproved results are denoted Fail. For the grade E the student must show a sufficient result. For the grade D, the student must show a satisfactory result. For the grade C, the student must show a good result. For the grade B, the student must show a very good result. For the grade A the student must show an excellent result. For the grade Fail, the student has shown an insufficient result.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires approved studies in political science comprising 60 higher education credits.