



Faculty of Social Sciences

## STVK02, Political Science: Bachelor's Course, 30 credits

*Statsvetenskap: Kandidatkurs, 30 högskolepoäng*

First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2012-04-04 and was valid from 2012-05-03, autumn semester 2012.

### General Information

The course constitutes the third semester studies in the subject political science. The course can be read as a freestanding course or in programme according to programme syllabus. The course is given in Swedish and English.

*Language of instruction:* English and Swedish

*Main field of studies*

Political Science

Political Science

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G2E, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree project for BA/BSc

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### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

### Knowledge and understanding

- show advanced knowledge of the different scientific theoretical bases of the political science and about problems, theorisings and research results in one of the core areas of the political science

- show advanced and practical knowledge of political science related methods and technologies and their importance for the research process as a whole

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate the ability to in an independent way formulate a fundamental relevant political science related problem and search actively, choose and apply analytical tools to discuss and highlight this problem both theoretical and empirical

- demonstrate the ability to efficient and independently compile, review and communicate results of a larger learning and research process critically in both written and oral form within given time and space limits

- demonstrate the ability independently to carry out information retrievals within the knowledge field critically analyse the information and in a qualified way use this

- demonstrate the ability to reflect critically around and take responsibility for his own work and learning process, and supervise the political science related knowledge development

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments of central social situations from relevant scientific and ethical aspects

- demonstrate the ability to contribute to a common learning environment and to aspects of group dynamics in the learning process

### **Course content**

Module 1 Political science related methodology (7.5 credits)

The module deepens the methodological knowledge that has been acquired under earlier studies in political science. The aim is to prepare the course participants for the degree project for Bachelor's degree but also to create a broad familiarity with political science related methods and analytical techniques. The module starts with a

discussion of central scientific theoretical concepts and considerations. After that, the different stages of the research process are treated, where special attention is devoted to the consequences of different theoretical and methodological choices. Here we discuss problem formulation, concept formation, choice of research strategies and strategies for material collection. Special attention is devoted to different forms of quantitative analysis, such as various types of case studies. In addition, different forms are treated by interpreting attempts as well as methods for normative analysis. In a completing part, possibility to specialisation is given within one of four methodological specialities: a) quantitative analysis, b) case studies, c) interpretation methods and normative analysis or d) fieldwork and participating observation. The course participants choose a specialisation in view of the methodological specialisation in their degree projects.

## Module 2 Alternatives in political science related theory (7.5 credits)

The module is chosen among the alternatives that the department establishes before each start of the course. Alternative with insufficient number of applicants can be set. A rule of thumb for the extent of the reading list is 1200 sides. This number of pages can be exceeded or be decreased depending on the degree of difficulty of the literature and the nature of the alternative course. Descriptions of the alternative modules are in connection with the literature list.

## Module 3 Degree Project for Bachelor's degree (15 credits)

The module includes a thesis work, where the student should make an independent analysis of a political science related problem. The student should present a research assignment orally and in writing and participate in the review of other students' research actively. The topic is designed in consultation with the supervisor and should be brought from the field the alternative course treats.

## Course design

The teaching on module 1 and 2 takes place in the form of lectures, teaching sessions and seminars. Participation in all seminars is compulsory. The modules are examined running through active participation in seminars and through compulsory written assignments. In addition to the regular examination of the module, two re-examination sessions per course occasion.

The teaching on module 3 consists of plan and essay seminars, education in information retrieval and other method tuition and supervision. Participation in the seminars is compulsory. The examination takes place, by the students presenting their essays and participate in the review of other essays in the seminar group. The reviewers should at the essay seminar hand in a written summary of the public discussion.

## **Assessment**

*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 following grades are used: A, B, C, D, E or failed. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a no pass 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 have shown unacceptable results.

The grade in the whole course is decided by the grade on module 3, Degree Project for Bachelor's degree.

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**

For admission to the course, passed studies in political science are required extensive 1-60 credits.

## **Further information**

Module 1 is compulsory except for foreign exchange students. Student as at studies abroad read course of equivalent blows can after the decisions of examiner obtain this included as alternative module.

The degree project should be handed into electronic form according to the department instructions for publication in open access database on server belonging to Lund University. Exemption from publication can be granted at heavily weighing causes.

This course replaces STVK01, Political science: Bachelor Thesis, 30 credits.

## Subcourses in STVK02, Political Science: Bachelor's Course

### Applies from V14

- 1201 Methodology in Political Science, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1202 Alternative in Political Science, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1203 Degree Essay, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1204 Discussant, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1205 Knowledge Test, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

### Applies from H12

- 1201 Methodology in Political Science, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1202 Alternative in Political Science, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1203 Degree Essay, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1204 Discussant, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass