



Faculty of Social Sciences

STVP31, Political Science: European Union Negotiations, 7.5 credits

Statsvetenskap: European Union Negotiations, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-11-17, spring semester 2012.

General Information

This is a Political Science course offered during the second term of the Master of Science (two years) in European Affairs. The course may also be taken as a single subject course in Political Science.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Political Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- have acquired comprehensive knowledge of research problems, theoretical traditions, methods and research results in the study of European Union negotiations

Competence and skills

- be able to independently formulate a relevant research question in the area covered by the course, and have the ability to theorise, generalise and discuss this problem in an abstract way

- be able to design, execute and reflect on all stages of the research process in Political Science
- be able to summarise, review, evaluate and criticise other studies of the EU as a negotiation arena
- be able to communicate the results of learning and research processes to different kinds of recipients within a given time frame, both in writing and orally
- be able to follow the development of knowledge in the research area covered by the course, and master techniques for making proper academic references
- have developed a critical attitude towards knowledge, learning, politics and society
- be able to contribute to a common learning environment and to the group dynamic aspects of learning.

Course content

This course centres on the European Union as a negotiated order. Decision-making processes within the EU are analysed from a negotiation perspective. General theories on bargaining and negotiation are used to characterize EU negotiations, while at the same time highlighting the unique features of these complex and ever on-going negotiations. Special attention is paid to a number of existing approaches to EU negotiations: intergovernmental models, two-level games, network theories and theories of communicative action and deliberation. Actor strategies are highlighted, including coalition building and leadership. The role of the EU as a negotiator in international negotiations is also examined. A simulation of working-group negotiations within the Union is included in the course.

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures, individual studies, seminars and a negotiation game. Participation in seminars is mandatory. Assessment is based on:

- active and constructive participation in the lectures and seminars and in the concluding simulation game
- class presentations
- an individual course paper

Assessment

In addition to the regular examinations two extra examinations will be organised each term.

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 grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. 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 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 in the course.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must be admitted to the Master of Science (two years) in European Affairs. Students taking the course as a single subject course are eligible after passing courses of at least 150 credits in fully completed courses, 90 of which – including a Bachelor's degree essay – is in Political Science or Peace and Conflict Studies.

Subcourses in STVP31, Political Science: European Union Negotiations

Applies from V12

1101 Course Paper, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A