



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

**ÖCKR10, Central and Eastern European Studies:  
Understanding Belarus and Ukraine, 15 credits**  
*Central and Eastern European Studies: Understanding Belarus and  
Ukraine, 15 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2021-03-05 and was last revised on 2023-09-11. The revised syllabus applies from 2024-03-01, autumn semester 2024.

### General Information

The course is offered as a free-standing course. It can normally be included as part of a first- or second-cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Central and Eastern European Studies

*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 the students shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- be able to give an in-depth account of issues, theories and research applied to Belarus and Ukraine from a humanist and social science perspective,
- be able to discuss the relevance of the postsocialist and postcolonial perspectives in the analysis of Belarus and Ukraine,
- be able to perceive processes in Belarus and Ukraine in broader socio-political contexts and draw parallels with other countries in Eastern Europe,

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to interpret and critically review scholarly work on Belarus and Ukraine,
- be able to identify and explain tensions between aspirations to join the European Union and associate with Russia,
- be able to independently carry out information searches on the subject and, using relevant sources,
- be able to present, in a professional manner and within specified time limits, the knowledge and research findings, orally and in writing, to different kinds of audiences, such as colleagues, conference participants, potential employers etc.,

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to approach the course material critically and identify the need for further learning,
- be able to critically apply different approaches, theories, and constructs of and about Belarusian and Ukrainian societies, cultures etc. to specific cases in the course literature or the mass media.

### **Course content**

The course critically reflects on theoretical approaches and concepts applied in studies of Belarus and Ukraine, such as postsocialism, postcolonial space, democratisation, and neoliberal transformations. It looks at how events and processes in Belarus and Ukraine are shaped by tensions between "the West" and "the East", while also focusing on the local, regional and national subjectivities. It also relates Belarus and Ukraine to transnational challenges and themes such as migration, authoritarianism, and memory politics. Furthermore, the course deals with specific social and political themes characterising contemporary Belarus and Ukraine. On the one hand, it focuses on socio-cultural processes and phenomena such as nation-building, the development of civil society, social stratification and inequality, and the issue of minorities. On the other hand, it inquires into political developments in Belarus and Ukraine such as the politics of security, protests and revolutions.

The course contains the following three modules:

1. Introduction: Background and Concepts, 3 HP
2. States, Nations and Political Transformations in Belarus and Ukraine, 6 HP
3. Society and Culture in Belarus and Ukraine, 6 HP

### **Course design**

The course consists of lectures and 8 compulsory seminars. Students can compensate for absence on compulsory seminars with written assignments and participation on follow-up seminars.

### **Assessment**

Module 1 is examined through a take-home exam.

Module 2 is examined through 4 written assignments and follow-up seminars.

Module 3 is examined through 4 written assignments and follow-up seminars.

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, Pass, Pass with distinction.

For a grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on all modules. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must also have been awarded this grade for at least 9 credits. (For a grade of Pass with Distinction on Modules 2 and 3, the student has to achieve the grade Pass with Distinction on the majority of the examined tasks).

## **Entry requirements**

To be admitted to the course, students must have 90 credits in Humanities or Social Sciences subjects.

## **Further information**

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see current registration and information materials.

## Subcourses in ÖCKR10, Central and Eastern European Studies: Understanding Belarus and Ukraine

Applies from H24

- 2401 Introduction: Background and Concept, 3,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2402 States, Nations and Political Transformations in Belarus and, 6,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2403 Society and Culture in Belarus and Ukraine, 6,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Applies from H21

- 2101 Introduction: Background and Concept, 3,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2102 States, Nations and Political Transformations in Belarus and, 6,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2103 Society and Culture in Belarus and Ukraine, 6,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction