



Joint 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 2025-01-13 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2024/726). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

### 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 study*

*Specialisation*

Central and Eastern European Studies 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 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 independently carry out information searches on the subject 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,

## 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 nationalism, national identities, postcolonialism, and democratisation. It looks at events and processes in Belarus and Ukraine on the local, regional and national levels, and relates the countries 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, 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 credits
2. States, Nations and Political Transformations in Belarus and Ukraine, 6 credits
3. Society and Culture in Belarus and Ukraine, 6 credits

## Course design

The course consists of lectures and 8 compulsory seminars. Students can compensate for absence on the seminars in writing or orally according to the lecturer's instructions.

## 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.

## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: 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 three of four 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.
- Names of course modules in Swedish:

1. Introduktion: bakgrund och koncept
2. Stater, nationer och politisk omvandling i Belarus och Ukraina
3. Samhälle och kultur i Belarus och Ukraina