

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Key Issues in Middle East Studies

Mellanösternstudier: Centrala frågor

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	ABMKEY
Valid from:	Autumn 2021
Date of approval:	2021-03-10
Department	Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies
Main field:	Mellanösterns språk och kulturer
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Department of the Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies 2021-03-10.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's Degree in Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, or equivalent.
English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
AB01	Key Issues in Middle East Studies	7.5

Course content

This course provides an insight into Middle East studies as an interdisciplinary practice, by highlighting its relation to various disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, such as history, anthropology, sociology, and political sciences.

This relation will emerge through contemporary debates connected with Middle East studies, with particular focus on methodological discussions that hold relevance to societal and ethical issues outside the academia. We will debate issues such as identity, nationalism, sectarianism, gender and patriarchy, authoritarianism and democracy.

The purpose is to enable the students to reflect upon their own positionality and the positionality of other actors and observers when dealing with issues linked to the representations of the Middle East in our society.

Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Show knowledge of relevant concepts and theoretical approaches to key issues in Middle East studies from an interdisciplinary perspective and ability to critically handle them in order to perform an analysis of primary sources;
- Show ability to critically reflect upon the representations of the Middle East in society and their socio-cultural and ethical implications;
- Show ability to critically reflect upon her/his own positionality as a student in the field.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. The language of instruction is English. Attendance at all teaching sessions is obligatory.

For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available at least one month before the course starts.

Forms of examination

- a) The course is examined on the basis of a written essay assignment. The examination will be in English. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available at least one month before the course starts.
- b) Grades will be set according to a seven point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:
A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Adequate
Fx = Inadequate
F = Totally Inadequate.
- c) Students will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts. Once set, the grading criteria related to the learning objectives of the course are binding.
- d) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher, alternatively a passed grade, on all examination assignments and meet the attendance requirement of 80%. Under special circumstances, the examiner may, after consulting with the coordinating teacher, grant the student an exemption from the obligation to participate in certain mandatory course elements. The student can then be assigned a compensatory assignment.
- e) At least two examination opportunities should be offered for each course. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during a semester when the course is not given. Students who receive the grade Fx or F twice by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board. Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.
- f. This course does not include any opportunities to complete a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade.

Interim

When the syllabus is discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition period of three semesters.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree together with a course, taken in Sweden or elsewhere, of identical or partially similar content.

Required reading

For up-to-date information about required reading, please refer to the department website at www.su.se/asia. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.