

Course Syllabus

African Studies: One-Year Master Degree Thesis 15 Credits*, Second Cycle Level 1

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall be able to:

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge within one of the areas that exists in African Studies including advanced knowledge of relevant methodology and theory, as well as insights into current research of the chosen area
- show the ability and skills needed to develop a research question and then independently search for, collect, evaluate and critically interpret and analyze relevant information
- conduct an independent scientific study, characterized by a connection to relevant and current research; by a competent application of method and theory; and by a strong argumentative drive based on thoroughly carried out analyses within a set timeframe
- present and argue for, both orally and in writing, his or her own results as well as the knowledge and argumentation which form the basis for the conclusions, while showing a high level of communicative competence
- analyze and discuss the scholarly work of others by pointing out strengths as well as weaknesses in the form of constructive response.

Course Content

The course starts with seminars on the research process, including the choice of topic, research question, methodology and theoretical approach, literature searches, outline and the actual writing process. The student then carries out an independent study of a well-defined problem area directly connected to one of the fields within African Studies. The study is presented in the form of an independently written essay of about 10.000-15.000 words. In the course students also orally present and defend their own results and arguments, as well as analyse the work of other students.

Assessment

The course is examined through the independently written thesis; however the student's ability to give and take constructive criticism during the course is also considered in the final assessment. The Master Thesis is defended in an open seminar with a discussant. In case this is not possible, the Thesis will be examined by two members of the teaching staff.

Forms of Study

The course is taught in the form of seminars and individual supervision. The thesis is defended and discussed at a “ventilation” seminar. All teaching is conducted in English. The Master Thesis is written in English.

Grades

The Swedish grades A–F.

Prerequisites

African Studies: Education and Change in African Societies, 8 credits, African Studies: The Dynamics of African Societies, 12 credits, African Studies: Religion and Politics in African Societies, 9 credits, African Studies: Developing the Research Proposal, 1 credit and African Studies: Elaborated Research Plan, 1 credit at second level

Other Information

Replaces HI3010.

Subject:

African Studies

Group of Subjects:

Other Interdisciplinary Studies

Disciplinary Domain:

Humanities, 100%

This course can be included in the following main field(s) of study:

1. African Studies

Progression Indicator within (each) main field of study:

1. A1E

Approved:

Approved 5 October 2015
Valid from 5 October 2015