Political Sociology  
7.5 ECTS credits

1. Decision

The Syllabus is approved by the board of the Department of Sociology at Stockholm University 2011-04-28.

2. General information

The course consists of 7.5 ECTS credits and is at the advanced level.

3. Course code

SO7400

4. Entrance qualifications

A Bachelor’s degree or 90 ECTS credits in sociology.

5. Course contents

The aim of this course is to give an overview of political sociology and to provide a deeper understanding of some of the central themes in modern political sociology.

6. Learning outcomes

After accomplishing this course, participants are expected to:

In terms of knowledge and understanding:

- Have knowledge about the principal lines of political sociology.
- Understand the meaning of central concepts and theories in political sociology.

In terms of accomplishments and competence:

- Be able to account for, and to analyze, the content of central texts by political sociologists in a clear, well put, and well argued manner.
- Be able to use relevant concepts and theories from political sociology to analyze political phenomena.

In terms of values and evaluation:

- To be able to critically assess political sociology texts in terms of their merits and limitations.

7. Instruction
The course is provided at full-time basis over five weeks, from April 27 to May 31, 2011. Teaching takes the form of 9 combined lectures and seminars, and 2 book seminars.

8. Examination

Examination is in the form of two assignments. Course members are expected to write (1) a short summary of a monograph in political sociology, and (2) a course paper on political sociology. The book should be selected from the list below, and the short summary (2 pages) should be handed in at the book seminars (May 27 and May 31). The two book seminars are obligatory. The course paper should use relevant texts in political sociology to deal with a research question related to political phenomena. The paper should be at least 6-8 pages, and be structured as a research paper. The topic and research question should be discussed with the teacher (Professor Jens Rydgren). The last day to hand in the course paper is June 7.

The course work and examination is evaluated according to the following degrees:

A = Excellent. To achieve this grade the student must be able to for the content of the course literature clearly and precisely, critically analyze and compare concepts and theories, argue convincingly for interpretations and conclusions, and use relevant literature in independent analysis of political phenomena.

B = Very good. To achieve this grade the student must be able to account for the content of the course literature clearly and precisely, critically analyze and compare concepts and theories, argue convincingly for interpretations and conclusions, and use relevant literature in relatively independent analysis of political phenomena.

C = Good. To achieve this grade the student must be able to account for the content of the course literature fairly clearly and precisely, critically analyze and compare concepts and theories, provide arguments for interpretations and conclusions, and use relevant literature in relatively independent analysis of political phenomena.

D = Satisfactory. To achieve this grade the student must be able to give a fairly accurate account for the content of the course literature, analyze concepts and theories, provide arguments for interpretations and conclusions, and use relevant literature in relatively independent analysis of political phenomena.

E = Sufficient. To achieve this grade the student must be able to give a fairly accurate account for the content of the course literature.

Fx = Insufficient. To achieve this grade the student must be able to account for the course literature to some extent.

F = Fail. The student cannot account for the content of the course literature in a way that is satisfactory.

E is needed to pass the course. Students with Fx or F at an exam are entitled to take another exam as the long as the course is provided in order to achieve grade E at least. A student with E is not entitled to another examination to raise his/her degree. Students can request to have examination according to this syllabus up to three semesters after it has stopped to be valid.
Students who received grade Fx or F on exams twice from the same examiner can request to be evaluated by another examiner. Such request should be sent to the Director of Studies.

9. Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 6/5</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>15-16</td>
<td>B315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8/5</td>
<td>Collective Action (Literature: 9, 11)</td>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>D397</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13/5</td>
<td>Radical right-wing parties (Literature: 12, 13)</td>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>D215</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 16/5</td>
<td>Globalization, states and international organizations (Literature: 1, 14)</td>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>D207</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20/5</td>
<td>Political networks (Literature: 7, 8, 18)</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>D220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23/5</td>
<td>State corruption (Literature: 2, 3, 17)</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>F4204</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 27/5</td>
<td>Revolutions (Literature: 5, 15, 16)</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>D307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 30/5</td>
<td>Elites (Literature: 4, 6, 10)</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>B307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3/6</td>
<td>Book seminar</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>B315</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4/6</td>
<td>Book seminar</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>B307</td>
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10. Literature

Required reading:


in Zuckerman, A., ed. The Social Logic of Politics: Personal Networks as Contexts for 

Books to choose from:

Cleavage. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Harvard University Press.

Yale University Press.


University Press.

Cambridge University Press.

University Press.


Chicago: University of Chicago Press.


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