



Course Syllabus
Methods, War Studies

Metod, krigsvetenskap

Course Code	2KR002	Main Field of Study	War Studies
Valid from Semester	Spring 2022	Department	Department of War Studies and Military History
Education Cycle	Advanced level	Subject	War Studies
Scope	15.0	Language of Instruction	The teaching is conducted in English.
Progression	A1N	Decided by	The Research and Education Board's Course Syllabus Committee at the Swedish Defence University
Grading Scale	Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction	Decision date	2022-01-01
Revision	1.0		

Entry Requirements

Accepted to the Master's Programme in Politics and War.

Course Content and Structure

Methods on how to study political and social phenomena are a core component of the social-scientific endeavour and play a fundamental role in understanding and explaining war and peace, as well as crisis management, security and defence policies. This course offers the student a comprehensive and systematic overview of existing approaches, methods and tools in war studies and political science. The course aims to provide the student with the necessary skills required to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of both qualitative and quantitative methods, and to be able to independently conduct scientific studies. The course includes both positivist and postpositivist approaches and methods. The course has a pluralistic aim and focuses on the different steps of the research process: concept formation, problem formulation, metatheory, research design, data collection techniques and qualitative and quantitative data analysis. The student is given an introduction to well-established approaches as well as those at the forefront of the research field.

Intended Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, the student is expected to be able to:

- assess qualitative and quantitative research designs, particularly those relevant to political science and war studies
- demonstrate an ability to use social science concepts in research design
- identify research problems
- develop an appropriate research design based on a research problem
- assess and choose suitable data collection techniques
- demonstrate ability to assess and conduct research from a positive and post-positive approach
- analyse data using a number of qualitative and quantitative methods.

Type of Instruction

Instruction includes lectures and seminars.

Assessment

Examination

Scope: 15.0

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction

Assessment takes place individually through the submission of individual written assignments and active participation in mandatory seminars.

The examiner may decide to allow supplementation in order to achieve a passing grade.

The examiner may decide that absence from mandatory seminars may be compensated by submitting a written supplementary assignment.

Grading

To earn the grade Pass with Distinction in the course, the student must actively participate in the mandatory seminars, and earn Pass with Distinction on the majority of assignments, with no assignment receiving a grade below Pass.

To earn the grade Pass in the course, the student must actively participate in the mandatory seminars, and earn a grade of Pass or better for all written assignments.

Grading criteria are specified in the course description.

Restrictions in Number of Examinations

There is no limit on the total number of examination opportunities.

Restrictions Concerning Degree

The course cannot be part of a degree with course whose content matches the content of this course in whole or in part.

Transitional Provisions

When a course is no longer provided or when the content of a course has been significantly altered, the student has the right to be examined in accordance with this course syllabus twice per academic year over a period of two years.

Miscellaneous

The course is given within the Master's Programme in Politics and War.

On completion of the course, an evaluation will be conducted under the auspices of the course director and will serve as the basis for any changes to the course.

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defence University on special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student.

Reading List
Methods, War Studies

Metod, krigsvetenskap

Course Code	2KR002
Revision	1.0
Reading List Valid from Date	--
Reading List Decided Date	--

Methods

Auchter, J (2016) "Playing war and genocide: Engame: Syria and Darfur is Dying" In Hamilton, C and LJ Shepherd (eds) *Understanding popular culture and world politics in the digital age*. London: Routledge, pp. 121-136.

Asal, V., Conrad, J., & Toronto N. (2017). I Want You! The Determinants of Military Conscription, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 61(7), 1456-1481.

Beach, D & Pedderon, R.B. (2019). *Process tracing methods: Foundations and guidelines*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan press, pp.1-12

Bennett, A. (2010) *Case study methods: Design, use and comparative advantages*. In Nahmias-Walinsky, Y, ed. *Models, Numbers and Cases: Methods for Studying International Relations*, pp. 19-48. Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press

Bevir, M. & Rhodes, R.A.W. (2016). *Interpretive Political Science: Mapping the field*. In M. Bevir and R.A.W. Rhodes, eds. *Routledge Handbook of Interpretive Political Science*, pp. 3-29. London; New York: Routledge.

Bleiker, R. (2016). *Pluralist Methods for Visual Global Politics*. *Millennium*, 43(3), 872-890.

Butler, J (2009) *Frames of War: When is life grievable?* London: Verso Books. Chapter 1 "Precarious Life, Grievable Life" (pp. 1-32).

Campbell, D. (2018) "Famine" In Bleiker, A (ed.) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp. 127-133.

Carson, A. (2016). *Facing Off and Saving Face: Covert Intervention and Escalation Management in the Korean War*. *International Organization* 70(1): 103-131. (26 pages)

Crilly, R (2016) "Like and share forces: Making sense of military social media sites" In Hamilton, C and LJ Shepherd (eds) *Understanding popular culture and world politics in the digital age*. London: Routledge, pp. 51-67.

Der Derian, J (2018) "War" Lee-Koo, K (2018) "Children" In Bleiker, A (ed) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp. 328-331.

Ekingren, M. (2002). *The Time of European Governance*. Manchester University Press. Ch 3

Ekingren, M., & Hollis, S. (2019) *Explaining the European Union's Security Role in Practice*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*.

Gentry, CE & Whitworth, K (2011) *The discourse of desperation: The intersection of neo-orientalism, gender, and Islam in the Chechen struggle*, *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 4(2): 145-161.

Harding, S. (1986). *The Science Question in Feminism*. Ithaca; London: Cornell University Press., Ch. 8: "The Birth of Modern Science as a Text: Internalist and Externalist Stories (pp.197-216)." & Ch. 9: "Problems with Post-Kuhnian Stories (pp.216-243)".

Haste, H., Jones, J., & Monroe, K. (2018). *Political Psychology*. In Bevir, Mark and R.A.W. Rhodes (eds.). *Routledge Handbook of Interpretive Political Science*. New York, NY: Routledge. Ch. 22

Hollis, M. (1994). *The Philosophy of social science: an introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 1 & 9

Infantino, F. (2016). *State-bound Visa Policies and Europeanized Practices. Comparing EU Visa Policy Implementation in Morocco*, *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 31:2, 171-186

Jackson, P.T. (2011). *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations: Philosophy of science and its implications for the study of world politics*. New York; London: Routledge. Chapter 3, pp.41-72.



- Kaempf, S "Digital Media" In Bleiker, A (ed) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp. 99-103.
- Käihkö, I. (2016). *Bush Generals and Small Boy Battalions: Military Cohesion in Liberia and Beyond*. Phd. diss.: Uppsala University., pp. 47-61. <http://uu.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A918765&dswid=614>
- Käihkö, I. (2018). *Conflict Chatnography: Instant messaging apps, social media and conflict ethnography in Ukraine*. *Ethnography*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1466138118781640>.
- Kellstedt, P. M., & Whitten. G.D. (2013). *The fundamentals of Political Science Research*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (chapters: 1,3-4, 6-7; 8-9; 10-11)
- Kuus, M. (2013) 'Foreign Policy and Ethnography: A skeptical Intervention'. *Geopolitics*, No. 18, pp. 115-131.
- Lacina, B. (2006). *Explaining the Severity of Civil Wars*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*50(2), 276-289
- Lee-Koo, K (2018) "Children" In Bleiker, A (ed) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp.48-54.
- Lynch, Cecilia (2014) "Critical Interpretation and Interwar Peace Movements. Challenging Dominant Narratives" In Yanow, Dvora and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea (eds.) *Interpretation and Method Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe. Ch. 16, pp. 300-308.
- McBride, K & ATR Wibben (2012) *The Gendering of Counterinsurgency in Afghanistan*, *Humanity* 3(2): 199-215.
- Moeller, SD (2018) "Compassion fatigue" In Bleiker, A (ed) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp. 75-80 .
- Pouliot, V (2012) *Methodology: putting practice theory into practice*. In: Adler-Nissen, R (ed.) *Bourdieu in International Relations: Rethinking the Key Concepts in IR*. London: Routledge, pp.46-58.
- Robinson, P (2018) "The CNN effect" In Bleiker, A, ed. (2018) *Visual Global Politics*. London: Routledge, pp. 62-67.
- Schwartz-Shea, P., & Yanow, D. (2012) *Interpretive Research Design. Concepts and Processes*. New York, NY: Routledge. Ch. Introduction, 1-3. Pp. 1-53., Ch. 6 pp.91-112.
- Seawright, J., & John G. (2008) *Case selection techniques in case study research: A menu of qualitative and quantitative options"*. *Political Research Quarterly* 61(2): 294-30.
- Tuhiwai-Smith, L (2012) *Decolonizing methodologies*. London: Zed Books. Chapter 2: "Research through imperial eyes" pp. 44-60.
- Weldes, J., (2014) *High Politics and Low Data. Globalization Discourses in Popular Culture*. In Yanow, Dvora and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea (eds.) *Interpretation and Method Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe. Ch. 12, Pp. 228-238.
- Whyte, W. F. (1993). *Street Corner Society: The Social Structure of an Italian Slum*. Fourth edition. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, pp. 279-373.
- Wibben, A.T.R., ed. (2016). *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics and Politics*. London; New York: Routledge.
- Wight, C. (2012). *Philosophy of the Social Science and International Relations*. in: Carlsnaes, W., Risse, T., & Simmons, B., eds. (2012). *Handbook of international relations*. (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.