



## Course Syllabus

## The Defence Policy and Military Strategy of the Nordic Countries

De nordiska ländernas försvarspolitik och militärstrategi

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<b>Course Code</b>	2SS077	<b>Main Field of Study</b>	Political Science: Security Studies
<b>Valid from Semester</b>	Spring 2022	<b>Department</b>	Department of Political Science and Law
<b>Education Cycle</b>	Advanced level	<b>Subject</b>	Political Science
<b>Scope</b>	7.5	<b>Language of Instruction</b>	The teaching is conducted in English.
<b>Progression</b>	A1N	<b>Decided by</b>	The Research and Education Board's Course Syllabus Committee at the Swedish Defence University
<b>Grading Scale</b>	Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction	<b>Decision date</b>	2022-01-01
<b>Revision</b>	1.0		

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**Entry Requirements**

Bachelor's degree 180 higher education credits

**Course Content and Structure**

The course aims to increase the student's ability to analyse both states' control of military force and strategic decisions regarding the creation and use of the military force. The course introduces current research on military strategy, with a special focus on small states' strategic choices and on the defence policies and strategies of the Nordic countries during the 2000s.

The course contains both rationalist and constructivist approaches to the study of military strategy and strategic decision-making. In addition, the course aims to impart knowledge of both case study methodology and comparative studies.

The course is divided into five components. It begins by discussing the security policy situation in the Nordic countries as well as these countries' security and defence policy choices. Focus then shifts first to the Nordic countries' military strategies for participating in international military operations and then on the same aspects of national defence. The fourth component deals with the Nordic countries' defence cooperation, with emphasis on the creation of military resources. The final component is an examination.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Present the division of roles and responsibilities in the formulation of security and defence policy by small states.

Competence and skills

- Problematised small states' formulation of military strategies for national defence.
- Apply the theoretical perspectives regarding analysis of small states' formulation of defence policy and military strategy that was introduced during the course.

Judgement and approach

- Critically discuss the participation of small states in international military operations.
- Critically discuss the participation of small states in international cooperation for the creation by military means of force.

**Type of Instruction**



Instruction is in the form of self-studies, lectures and seminars.

### Assessment

#### The Defence Policy and Military Strategy of the Nordic Countries

Scope: 7.5

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction

Assessment takes place individually through the submission of individual written assignments and active participation in mandatory seminars. Examination papers submitted after the deadline will not be graded unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner.

The examiner may decide to allow supplementation in order to achieve a passing grade. After announcement of the supplemental task, the student has three days for supplementation, unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner.

### Grading

Grades are set according to a three-grade scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). Grading criteria are specified by no later than the start of the course.

To earn a grade of Pass (G) for the course, the student must earn a grade of Pass (G) for the individual written paper and Pass (G) for the mandatory seminars.

To earn a grade of Pass with Distinction (VG) for the course, the student must fulfil the requirements for earning Pass (G) plus earn a grade of Pass with Distinction (VG) for the individual written paper.

### 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 another 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 once per semester over a period of three semesters.

### Miscellaneous

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

The course is given as an elective course within the Master's Programme in Politics and War. It can also be given as a freestanding course.

## Reading List

## The Defence Policy and Military Strategy of the Nordic Countries

De nordiska ländernas försvarspolitik och militärstrategi

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<b>Course Code</b>	2SS077
<b>Revision</b>	1.0
<b>Reading List Valid from Date</b>	2020-11-11
<b>Reading List Decided Date</b>	2020-11-11

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## Books

- Archer, Clive, Alyson Bailes & Anders Wivel (2014) (eds). *Small States and International Security: Europe and beyond*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Dahl, Ann-Sofie & Pauli Järvenpää (2014) (eds). *Northern Security and Global Politics*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Edström, Håkan & Dennis Gyllensporre (2014) (eds). *Alike or Different? – Strategic thinking in Scandinavia*. Stockholm: Santérus Academic Press.
- Edström, Håkan, Dennis Gyllensporre & Jacob Westberg (2019). *Small States' Defence Strategies – The Nordic Countries' Responses to the External Shocks of the 21st Century*. Abingdon: Routledge
- Hansen, Lene & Ole Wæver (2002) (eds). *European integration and national identity: the challenge of the Nordic states*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Ingebritsen, Christine Iver Neumann, Sieglinde Gstöhl & Jessica Beyer (2006) (eds). *Small States in International Relations*. Reykjavik: University of Iceland Press.
- Nedergaard, Peter & Anders Wivel (2018) (eds). *Routledge Handbook on Scandinavian Politics*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Saxi, Håkon Lunde (2011). *Nordic defence cooperation after the Cold War*. Oslo: Institutt for forsvarsstudier (Oslo Files on Defence and Security).
- Steinmetz, Robert & Anders Wivel (2010) (eds). *Small States in Europe*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

## Articles

- Nordic Security and Defence Cooperation: Differentiated Integration in Uncertain Times” Forsberg, Tuomas (2013). “The rise of Nordic defence cooperation: a return to regionalism?” *International Affairs*, Volume 89, Issue 5.
- Heier, Tormod (2019). “Avoiding War: How Should Northern Europe Respond to the US-Russian Rivalry?” *Arctic Review on Law and Politics*, Volume 9.
- Honig, Jan Willem & Jan Ångström (2012). “Regaining Strategy: Small Powers, Strategic Culture, and Escalation in Afghanistan” *Journal of Strategic Studies*, Volume 35, Issue 5.
- Howlett, Darryl & John Glenn (2005). ” Epilogue: Nordic Strategic Culture” i *Cooperation and Conflict*, Volume 40, Issue 1.
- Jakobsen, Peter Viggo (2007). “Still Punching Above Their Weight? Nordic Cooperation in Peace Operations after the Cold War” *International Peacekeeping*, Volume 14, Issue 4.
- Møller, Joakim Erma (2019). “Trilateral defence cooperation in the North: an assessment of interoperability between Norway, Sweden and Finland” *Defence Studies*, Volume 19, Issue 3.
- Neumann, Iver & Henrikki Heikka (2005). “Grand Strategy, Strategic Culture, Practice: The Social Roots of Nordic Defence” i *Cooperation and Conflict*, Volume 40, Issue 1.
- Rickli, Jean-Marc (2008). “European small states' military policies after the Cold War: from territorial to niche strategies” *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, Volume 21, Issue 3.
- Saxi, Håkon Lunde (2019). “The Rise, Fall and Resurgence of Nordic Defence Cooperation.” *International Affairs*, Volume 95, Issue 3.
- Wilson, Page & Ísak Kári Kárason (2020) “Vision accomplished? A decade of NORDEFECO” *Global Affairs* (Published online: 5 August 2020).

Additional reference literature (books and/or articles) of a total of approximately 200 pages is selected in dialogue between the individual student and the examiner. Examples of such literature are given in the course description.