



Course Syllabus
International Law and Contemporary Conflicts

Folkrätt och samtida konflikter

Course Code	1PK094	Main Field of Study	Law with Specialisation in International Law
Valid from Semester	Spring 2021	Department	Department of Security, Strategy and Leadership
Education Cycle	Basic level	Subject	Law with Specialization in International Law
Scope	7.5	Language of Instruction	The teaching is conducted in English.
Progression	G1N	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	2020-08-11
Revision	1.0		

Entry Requirements

General entry requirements, Social Studies A or Social Studies 1b or 1a1+1a2 plus English B/English 6.

Course Content and Structure

The course provides a general understanding of the role of international law in different types of conflict situations, such as international and non-international armed conflicts, as well as other situations of instability between or within states. The course primarily covers the following areas of international law:

- The fundamentals of international law
- The right to use force
- Human rights law with particular focus on conflict situations
- International humanitarian law (the law of armed conflict)

Intended Learning Outcomes

After completed course the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe the legal system, sources, actors and enforcement mechanisms within the different areas of international law covered in the course.
- Explain the rights and duties of different actors in different types of conflict situations.

Competence and skills

- Independently and together with other people, use international legal method to identify, formulate, analyse and answer questions concerning international law arising in connection to different types of contemporary conflicts.

Judgement and approach

- Critically evaluate legal arguments put forward within the areas of international law covered in the course.

Type of Instruction

The course is mainly carried out in the form of self-studies, individual assignments and group work. These are supplemented with teacher-led seminars and lectures.

Seminar assignments are prepared in writing and presented in groups during the course's seminars. The assignments aim to train



the student to individually and together with others identify, formulate, analyse and respond to international law issues in connection with contemporary conflict situations.

The lectures shall contribute to the student's individual studies and group work by putting the issues addressed in the course into a larger context, explaining particularly complicated legal issues, and supplementing and contrasting the course literature.

Assessment

Individual written assignment

Scope: 4.5

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction

During the final weeks of the course, the student shall submit an individual written assignment in the form of a memorandum. Examinations submitted late will not be graded unless special circumstances exist and the examiner finds the reason acceptable.

The examiner may decide to allow supplementation of the examination assignment in order for a passing grade to be achieved in the course. The supplementation shall be submitted no later than three working days after notification of the examination results and the decision on supplementation, unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner.

Participation in examining seminars

Scope: 3.0

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass

During the first four weeks of the course, the students shall participate in four examination seminars.

The examiner may decide to allow supplementation in the form of an individual written assignment in order for a passing grade to be achieved in the course.

The supplementation shall be submitted no later than three working days after notification of the examination results and the decision on 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).

To earn the grade Pass (G) in the course, the student must earn a grade of Pass (G) on the individual written assignment and a grade of Pass (G) on the examination seminars.

To earn the grade Pass with Distinction (VG) in the course, the student must meet the requirements for Pass (G) and earn a grade of Pass with Distinction (VG) on the individual written assignment.

Grading criteria are specified by no later than the start of the course.

Restrictions in Number of Examinations

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

Restrictions Concerning Degree

The course cannot be included in a degree with another course whose content fully or partially corresponds to the content of this course.

Transitional Provisions

When the course is no longer given or when the course content has changed substantially, the student has the right to be examined once per semester during a three-term period in accordance with this syllabus.

Miscellaneous

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defense University on 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 within the Master's Programme in Politics and War as well as a freestanding course.

From the autumn semester 2021, the course is included within the master's program Politics, Security and War.



Reading List

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