



# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Political Matters in Anthropological Perspective**

**Politik i antropologiskt perspektiv**

**7.5 Higher Education**

**Credits**

**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	SAM250
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2020
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2019-11-04
<b>Department</b>	Department of Social Anthropology
<b>Main field:</b>	Social Anthropology
<b>Specialisation:</b>	G2E - First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree project for BA/BSc

## Decision

This syllabus is approved by the Departemental Board at the Department of Social Anthropology 2019-11-04.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A bachelor's degree in social anthropology or corresponding social science or cultural science subjects.  
English 6

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
M250	Political Matters	7.5

## Course content

Political processes and power have long been central subjects in social anthropology. This includes policies within political institutions but also violence, hegemony and power structures, social movements and resistance, as well as political identity, agency, and subjectivity. The course focuses on politics in a broad sense and reflects on what it can mean in various geographical locations and at various times, at a local, national global level. The course considers anthropological perspectives on political processes with ethnographical examples from around the world. The course provides insight into how the theoretical field has changed over time as anthropologists have studied stateless societies, nation states, transnationalism, and global processes, including decolonization, reflexivity, and engaged anthropology. With a focus on contemporary political processes in an increasingly globalized world, the course also touches on expressions in literature, art, and music with significance for people's everyday lives.

## Learning outcomes

For a grade of pass, the student shall be able to:

- critically discuss what the concept of politics can mean in different contexts.
- account for anthropological perspectives on power structures, violence, resistance, and political identity.
- reflect on various dimensions of political processes with the aid of ethnographical examples.
- account for how the theoretical field of anthropology has changed over time.
- problematize the role of anthropology and their own society with the aid of concepts and theories discussed during the course.

## **Education**

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars, and group exercises.

Attendance at seminars is compulsory. Up to two missed seminars can be compensated by completing exercises provided by the teacher.

The course is taught in English.

## **Forms of examination**

The course is examined through a take-home exam and seminar assignments. Examination is done in English.

### Grading scale

Grading is done according to a goal-related, seven-step scale.

A= Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Failing grades

Fx = Failed, some extra work required F = Failed, significant extra work required

### Grading criteria

The written grading criteria are provided to the students at the start of the course.

### Final grade

For a passing final grade on the course, students must have at least a grade of E on the take-home exam, passed seminar assignments, and a total seminar attendance of at least 80 %.

Supplementary or late assignments cannot be given a higher grade than C. (Exceptions can be made if special grounds exist, following a decision by the Director of Studies).

### Failing

Students given a grade of F or Fx (i.e. failing) can supplement their submitted assignments. Students given a grade of Fx or F on a test are normally offered at least three exam dates within the span of a year. A final grade on the course as a whole requires at least a grade of E according to the seven-step scale. Students with a grade of at least E on a test may not re-take the test in order to raise their grade. Students who are given a grade of Fx or F on a test at least twice on the same course by an examiner may request another examiner to grade their test. Such a request shall be made to the department board.

### Supplementary assignments

A grade of Fx may be supplemented to become a passing grade if the student is close to achieving a passing grade. The assignment shall be provided within 10 working days of the need for supplementation being announced by the examiner.

For approved supplementation of simple formal errors, grades A-E are used. For approved supplementation of errors stemming from lack of understanding, grades C-E are used.

If the student has a certificate from Stockholm University with a recommendation regarding special support, the examiner may provide an adapted test or allow the student to take the test in an alternative way.

## **Interim**

Students may request examination according to this course syllabus no more than three times during a two-year period after it has ceased to apply. A request in this regard shall be made to the department board. Other compulsory course elements are considered equal to tests.

## **Misc**

The course is part of the SOANO master's programme in social anthropology as a specialisation course in semester 2.

## **Required reading**

The reading list is posted on the department's website,

<https://www.socant.su.se/utbildning/studieinformation/schema-kurslitteratur>

A current reading list will be posted no later than two months before the start of the course.