

**SYLLABUS**

# **Political Science A, Comparative Politics 7.5 credits S0007N**

**Statsvetenskap A, Jämförande politik**

**Course syllabus admitted: Autumn 2023 Sp 1 - Present**

**DECISION DATE  
2023-02-15**

# Political Science A, Comparative Politics 7.5 credits S0007N

## Statsvetenskap A, Jämförande politik

### First cycle, S0007N

Education level	Grade scale	Subject	Subject group (SCB)
First cycle	U G VG *	Statsvetenskap	Political Science

### Main field of study

Political Science

## Entry requirements

In order to meet the general entry requirements for first cycle studies you must have successfully completed upper secondary education and documented skills in English language

## Selection

The selection is based on final school grades or Swedish Scholastic Aptitude Test.

## Course Aim

How does politics work in other countries? How does the political system of a democracy differ to that in a non-democracy? In what ways can politics be organized to achieve a balance between values such as efficiency, legitimacy and the sharing of power? Comparative politics is the study of, and the methods of study, different political entities and systems, either in part or in full. The political systems and institutions of other states (than Sweden) are the main focus. Comparative politics explain and analyze questions about how, why and with what consequences policies work in other countries, as well as to better understand the creation and design of new political institutions, processes or systems. Throughout the course, a number of generic skills are also dealt with, which are put into practical application during the course. Particular emphasis is placed on the ability to independently seek, evaluate and critically examine knowledge, as well as on the ability to present and communicate this in a structured way.

After completing the course, the student should demonstrate:

- Ability to describe and explain the main processes, actors and functions that make up the political system.
- Ability to apply basic concepts and analysis tools to describe and compare political systems in different states.
- Ability to explain and describe the causes as well as effects of institutional choices.
- Ability to participate actively and constructively in seminar discussions.
- Ability to write and present written work in a structured way and within given time and space frames.
- Ability to independently search for relevant knowledge in both printed and Internet-based sources.
- Ability to independently relate to, critically review and evaluate this knowledge.
- Presentation and communication skills.

## Contents

The course in Comparative Politics opens with a review of the basic theories and methods used in the study of comparative politics. Following that, focus is on political participation, political culture, and the role of the citizen and its significance for democracy and democratization processes. Political institutions, such as, legislative branches and executive powers, and the implementation of political goals are also presented. The organized society constituted by political parties and interest organizations as well as other channels for molding of political opinions such as the media will be observed.

## Realization

Each course occasion's language and form is stated and appear on the course page on Luleå University of Technology's website.

Teaching will take the form of lectures and seminars. Seminars are compulsory. By conducting comparisons between different states, participants shall practice the presentation of individually performed analysis, with connections to both different political systems and to theories and methods in comparative politics. The ability to independently search for, evaluate, and critically review knowledge is furthermore exercised through library-led courses.

The course realization may be in English.

## Examination

If there is a decision on special educational support, in accordance with the Guideline Student's rights and obligations at Luleå University of Technology, an adapted or alternative form of examination can be provided.

The course is examined through a written exam; oral presentations of and seminar discussions on exercises as well as written submissions. The written exam examines the goal of describing and explaining the main processes, actors and functions that make up the political system. Through the seminar exercises and the written assignments, the goals of applying basic concepts and analysis tools for describing and comparing political systems in different states are examined; to independently and critically analyze the causes as well as effects of institutional choices; and to participate actively and constructively in seminar discussions. Written submissions also examine the goal of writing and presenting written work in a structured way and within given time frames.

All examinations form the basis for final grades for the course according to the distribution exam 50%, seminar assignments and written assignments 50%. Grades for the course are only set when all exams have been submitted and all compulsory parts have been completed. The grading scale consists of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) and Pass with Distinction (VG).

## Unauthorized aids during exams and assessments

If a student, by using unauthorized aids, tries to mislead during an exam or when a study performance is to be assessed, disciplinary measures may be taken. The term "unauthorized aids" refers to aids that the teacher has not previously specified as permissible aids and that may assist in solving the examination task. This means that all aids not specified as permissible are prohibited. The Swedish version has interpretative precedence in the event of a conflict.

## Remarks

Students must register for the courses themselves, or contact ETKS educational administration, [eduetks@ltu.se](mailto:eduetks@ltu.se) not later than three days after the quarter commences. Failure to do so can result in the place being lost. This rule also applies to students with a guaranteed place.

## Overlap

The course S0007N is equal to IES342

## Course offered by

Department of Social Sciences, Technology and Arts

## Modules

Code	Description	Grade scale	Cr	Status	From period	Title
0004	Written exam	U G VG *	3.5	Mandatory	A23	
0005	Oral and written assignments	U G VG *	4	Mandatory	A23	

## Study guidance

Study guidance for the course is to be found in our learning platform Canvas before the course starts. Students applying for single subject courses get more information in the Welcome letter. You will find the learning platform via My LTU.

## Last revised

by Director of Undergraduate Studies Daniel Örtqvist, Department of Business Administration, Technology and Social Sciences 2023-02-15

## Syllabus established

by Institutionen för Industriell ekonomi och samhällsvetenskap 2007-02-28