

SYLLABUS

Political science B, Evaluation and analysis 7.5 credits S0030N

Statsvetenskap B, Utvärdering, utredning och analys

Course syllabus admitted: Autumn 2013 Sp 1 - Autumn 2013 Sp 2

**DECISION DATE
2013-06-20**

Political science B, Evaluation and analysis 7.5 credits S0030N

Statsvetenskap B, Utvärdering, utredning och analys

First cycle, S0030N

Education level	Grade scale	Subject	Subject group (SCB)
First cycle	U G VG	Statsvetenskap	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 1-165 credits.

Examiner

Annica Sandström

Course Aim

Evaluations are made within all organizations and many social scientists work daily with the task to monitor and evaluate the effects of decisions and programs. The course covers the function of evaluation and highlights the complexities associated with its practice. Participants develop an understanding of different theoretical approaches, methods and analytical tools. The theoretical knowledge is practically applied through the study of completed evaluations and by the planning of an authentic evaluation. What goals should be evaluated, by what criteria and how can the effects of a certain program actually be monitored? After completing the course, the participants can critically reflect on these issues, they can compare and evaluate different evaluation models, as well as plan an evaluation of their own. The course focuses on evaluation in the public sector primarily but most issues are relevant also for private organizations.

After the course the student should be able to:

- Describe, categorize and compare different definitions of the term evaluation
- Describe the phenomenon of evaluation in public policy and administration, and provide empirical examples of different functions of evaluations
- Describe and explain the problems that can arise in the evaluation of public policy and programs
- Relate the function of evaluation to different public management doctrines
- Describe, classify, compare and evaluate different models for evaluation
- Compare and analyze completed evaluations
- Independently formulate an evaluation question and plan an authentic evaluation of a policy or a program
- Communicate their skills in discussions and in text

Contents

The following areas are covered:

- The concept of evaluation
- The phenomenon of evaluation in policy and public administration - history, current status and trends
- Problems and challenges associated with the evaluation of public policy and programs
- Different public management doctrines and how these relate to the phenomenon of evaluation
- The complexities associated with the practice of evaluation
- Different evaluation models, their advantages and disadvantages in different contexts
- The functions and benefits of evaluations

Realization

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

The course consists of lectures and three seminars with compulsory assignments. The lectures aim to introduce the themes of the course and to provide empirical illustrations. The seminars aim to develop the students' understandings of the course topics. When preparing for the closing seminar, the students apply their theoretical knowledge and formulate a plan for an authentic evaluation.

Participants work individually and in groups with tasks under the supervision of the teacher. Group work train students' cooperative skills and create opportunities for learning processes within the student group. The final seminar task is carried out individually, however. Skills in oral and written presentation are trained continuously throughout the course.

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. Examination consists of three seminars and compulsory assignments. The first two seminars each represent 25% of the final grade, the final seminar represent 50% of the final grade.

The first seminar and the written assignment examine students' ability to:

- Describe, categorize and compare different definitions of the term evaluation
- Describe the phenomenon of evaluation in public policy and administration, and provide empirical examples of different functions of evaluations
- Describe and explain the problems that can arise in the evaluation of public policy and programs
- Relate the function of evaluation to different public management doctrines
- Communicate their skills in discussions and in text

The second seminar and the written assignment examine students' ability to:

- Describe, classify, compare and evaluate different models for evaluation
- Compare and analyze completed evaluations
- Communicate their skills in discussions and in text

The third seminar, and the written assignment, examine students' ability to:

- Independently formulate an evaluation question and plan an authentic evaluation of a policy or a program
- Communicate their in discussions and in text

Remarks

Students must register for the courses themselves, or contact ETKS educational administration eduetks@ltu.se, not later than five 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.

Literature. Valid from Autumn 2013 Sp 1

Hertting, Nils och E. Vedung (senaste upplagan) Den utvärderingstäta politiken. Styrning och utvärdering i svensk storstadspolitik. Lund: Studentlitteratur

Lundquist, Lennart (senaste upplagan) Förvaltning, stat och samhälle. Lund: Studentlitteratur

Sanne, Marika (senaste upplagan) Skrivråd för statsvetare. Lund: Studentlitteratur.

Vedung, Evert (senaste upplagan) Utvärdering i politik och förvaltning. Lund: Studentlitteratur

Sandberg, Bo och Sven Faugert. Perspektiv på Utvärdering. Senaste upplagan. Studentlitteratur.

Scientific articles and reports/evaluations

Course offered by

Department of Business Administration, Technology and Social Sciences

Items/credits

Number	Type	Credits	Grade
0001	Seminars and compulsory assignments	7.5	U G VG

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 Bo Jonsson, Department of Business Administration, Technology and Social Sciences 2013-06-20

Syllabus established

by Head of the Department of Business Administration and Social Sciences 2010-02-19