CMEN02, Middle Eastern Studies: Key Theories in Middle Eastern Studies, 10 credits
Second cycle

Details of approval
The syllabus was approved by the Board of the Centre of Middle Eastern Studies on 2 February 2018 and is valid from 16 March 2018, autumn semester 2018.

General information
The course is a compulsory component of the Master of Science programme in Middle Eastern Studies, 120 credits, and included in semester 1.

It is also offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field: Middle Eastern Studies
Depth of study relative to the degree requirements: A1N, second cycle, requiring only first-cycle courses for admission

Learning outcomes
To pass the course, students must

Knowledge and understanding
- demonstrate a specialised ability to define and describe key analytical concepts, theories and questions within the different theoretical perspectives
- demonstrate understanding of how key concepts, theories and questions are applied to social and cultural phenomena in the modern Middle East

Competence and skills
- demonstrate a specialised ability to identify the applicability of different theories for explaining the varying social relationships in the Middle East with regard to economic, cultural and political processes
- demonstrate a specialised ability to compare and contrast the different theoretical perspectives with regard to how they are applied to the present-day Middle East
Judgement and approach
- demonstrate the ability to critically assess theoretical paradigms and their usefulness for understanding social change in the Middle East
- demonstrate the ability to assess the potential of social theory for determining the forms of social change in the present-day Middle East, and
- demonstrate a specialised ability to evaluate the applicability of theories and concepts developed within Western academic institutions to the study of the present-day Middle East

Course content
The aim of the course is to explore the extent to which Western concepts, social sciences theories and the narrative of Western modernity can be applied in Middle Eastern Studies. The students will examine a wide range of theoretical traditions and their application to studies of the region. In addition to exploring a number of theoretical perspectives within the social sciences, the students will examine scholarly analyses of the Middle East inspired by these perspectives.

Course design
The teaching consists of lectures, discussions in large and small groups, film screenings, guest lectures, student presentations and debates.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in student presentations and debates is compulsory. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

Assessment
The assessment is based on written assignments.

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
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<td>Assignment 2</td>
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<td>Assignment 4</td>
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The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a retake close to the first examination and a catch-up exam for courses completed in the past academic year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.
Grades
The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A, and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student’s performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

The grade for the entire course is determined by the following grading scale:
A = 92–100 % of total points
B = 84–92 % of total points
C = 76–84 % of total points
D = 68–76 % of total points
E = 60–68 % of total points
U = 0–59 % of total points

All assessed components are awarded points which will be added up to a total on which the final grade is based.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied on the course.

Admission requirements
To be admitted to the course, students must be admitted to the Master of Science programme in Middle Eastern Studies, 120 credits, and have successfully completed 150 credits or the equivalent.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

Further information
The course replaces MOSN13 Middle Eastern Studies: Key Theories in Middle Eastern Studies, 10 credits.