



Date
2019-02-15

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Basic Course War Studies, Military Strategy and Security in the Baltic Sea Region

Title in Swedish: Grundkurs Krigsvetenskap, Översiktscurs militärstrategi och säkerhet i Östersjöområdet

Course Code: 1MK040

Valid from: Spring term 2019

Confirmed by: This syllabus has been approved by the course syllabus committee of the faculty board of the Swedish National Defence University 2017-12-18

Department: Department of Security, Strategy and Leadership

Subject: War Studies

Level: Undergraduate

Higher Education credits: 3 ECTS

Entry requirements and specific admission requirements

Acceptance to Military Erasmus.

Main field of study

War Studies

Progressive specialisation

G1N, basic level, only requires upper secondary school degree.

Level of specialisation

Basic level

Course Content and Structure:

This introductory course provides a basic overview of international politics and military strategy. It focuses in particular on the security situation in the Baltic Sea region. The first part of the course focuses on international relations theory and how it is linked to key concepts in military strategy. It introduces the student to the analysis of military conflicts and threats, as well as to key international actors within this field of study.

The second part of the course focuses on key concepts in military strategy and how different actors use military power to reach their strategic goals. In this part of the course, the Baltic Sea region constitutes the empirical focus.

The course includes lectures, one compulsory seminar and self-study.

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Intended Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the cadet is expected to be able to:

Knowledge

- Describe central concepts in international relations as well as the construction, function of and central actors in the international system.
- Describe basic concepts in military strategy and explain the use of military force in different areas.

Skills

- Provide an overview of the military strategic situation in the Baltic Sea region.

Competences

- Conduct a shorter conflict analysis based on the theoretical perspectives introduced during the course.

Assessment and Examination:

The course is examined by a compulsory seminar and an individual written assignment. The seminar consists of an oral presentation of a group work.

The examiner can opt to assign a supplementary task to students who fail to achieve a pass grade.

If the cadet has documented approval from the Swedish Defence University for specific pedagogical support due to a functional disorder, the examiner may decide on alternative ways to examine the cadet.

Number of examination sessions:

There are no limitations on the number of examination sessions.

Grading

There are three grades that may be awarded: Pass with distinction, Pass and Fail.

To receive the overall grade Pass with distinction, the cadet is required to have participated actively and constructively during the compulsory seminar and have also received a Pass with distinction grade on the individual written assignment.

To receive the grade Pass, the cadet is required to have participated actively and constructively during the compulsory seminar and have received a Pass grade on the individual written assignment.

Reading list and study resources:

See Annex 1

Interim Regulations:

A cadet has the right to be re-examined once every term for a three term period based on this syllabus if the course has ceased or if the syllabus has substantially changed.

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Miscellaneous:

The course is given in the Military Erasmus exchange programme

The course is taught in English.

A course evaluation will be conducted after the course by the officer in charge and forms the basis for any changes in future courses.

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Annex 1.

Reading list

Books	<p>Nye, Joseph S. & Welch David (2017). <i>Understanding global conflict and cooperation: An introduction to theory and history</i>. 10th ed. New York: Pearson Longman (Selection of chapters)</p> <p>Echevarria, Antulio Joseph (2017). <i>Military strategy: a very short introduction</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (130 pages)</p>
Articles	<p>Three articles will be added by the course conveynor</p> <p>Total number of pages approx. 400.</p>
Approved by	<p>This annex is approved by the Academic Board of War Studies at the Swedish Defence University 2017-11-15.</p>

Country SE	Institution Swedish National Defence University	Common Module Military Strategy and Security in the Baltic Sea Region (A)	ECTS 3.0
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Service ALL	Minimum Qualification for Lecturers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in war studies or political science (international relations). • English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B2 or NATO STANAG Level 3.
Language English	

Prerequisites for international participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2. • Admittance to basic officer's education. 	Goal of the Module <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce students to the study area of international politics and military strategy. • Provide an understanding of Inter-national relations theory and its connections to key concepts within military strategy. • Introduce key concepts of military strategy and illustrate how different actors use military power to achieve their strategic ambitions.
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Learning outcomes	Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe central concepts in international relations as well as the construction, function of and central actors in the international system. • Describe basic concepts in military strategy and explain the use of military force in different areas.
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an overview of the military strategic situation in the Baltic Sea region.
	Competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a shorter conflict analysis based on the theoretical perspectives introduced during the course.

Verification of learning outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test: Written assignment consisting of 1500 words delivered at the end of the module. • Seminar: Active participation in one seminar.
Grading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The course module applies the following grading criteria: pass with distinction, pass, or fail. • To pass with distinction, the cadet has to participate actively in the seminar and achieve the grade pass with distinction on the written assignment. • To pass, the cadet has to participate actively in the seminar and achieve the grade pass on the written assignment.

Module Details		
Main Topic	Recommended WH	Details
Lectures	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic concepts and theories concerning the international system and international relations. • Basic concepts of military strategy and their relation to international relations theory. • The use of force. • The military strategic situation in the Baltic Sea region.
Group work	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict analysis and the preparing of an oral presentation.
Seminar	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentation, presentation of own analysis and critique of other group's analyses.
Writing	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing of individual conflict analysis.
Self-studies	41	-
Total WH	80	The detailed amount of hours for the respective main topic is up to the course director according to national law or home institution's rules.

Remarks:

Literature for the module (in total approx. 400 pages):

- Nye, Joseph S. (2009). Understanding international conflicts: an introduction to theory and history. 7th ed. New York: Pearson Longman (selection of chapters).
- Echevarria, Antulio Joseph (2017). Military strategy: a very short introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (130 pages).
- In addition to the two books there are three articles covering the situation in the Baltic Sea region.

List of Abbreviations:

CEFR Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
 CUP Cambridge University Press
 ECTS European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
 NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
 STANAG Standardization Agreement
 WH Working Hour