



Course Syllabus
Proxy Wars, Interventions and Covert Operations

Ombudskrig, interventioner och täckoperationer

Course Code	2KR022	Main Field of Study	War Studies
Valid from Semester	Spring 2022	Department	Department of War Studies and Military History
Education Cycle	Advanced level	Subject	War Studies
Scope	7.5	Language of Instruction	The teaching is conducted in English.
Progression	A1N	Decided by	Swedish Defence University
Grading Scale	Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction	Decision date	2022-01-01
Revision	1.0		

Entry Requirements

Accepted to the Master's Programme in Politics, Security and War. For freestanding course: Bachelor of Science Degree in Military Studies or Bachelor's degree worth 180 credits, of which 90 credits are in War studies or equivalent.

Course Content and Structure

This course aims to provide comprehensive knowledge of proxy wars, particularly their characteristics, political decision-making processes and consequences. During the course, you will analyze contemporary as well as historical proxy wars using theoretical concepts from current research on the topic. In particular, we will focus on a set of key questions: What is proxy warfare? Why do states use proxies? Why do governments and non-state armed groups request external support? What type of support is provided, and what is central in the decision-making process? What determines whether an intervention is overt or covert? How do states control their proxies? What are the consequences of these type of interventions? Is war by proxy an effective way to achieve political goals?

Except for the introductory lecture the course is completely seminar-based with a strong emphasis placed on active student learning. This includes presenting and structuring a policy-relevant briefing and contributing with constructive feedback on the analyses of other participants.

Intended Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, the student is expected to be able to:

- Problematiser and critically evaluate arguments, theories and methods in current research on proxy wars
- Independently analyse historical and contemporary proxy wars using theoretical concepts and relevant empirics
- Critically assess and contrast theories within the general research on interventions
- Present and structure a policy-relevant briefing

Type of Instruction

Seminars and lectures.

Assessment

Examination

Scope: 7.5

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction

Assessment is based on three components: a written assignment, written peer-feedback, and a verbal policy briefing.

Attendance at the seminar that includes the policy briefing is mandatory. The examiner may decide to allow for a supplementary

assignment in order to achieve a passing grade. The student has three working days to complete the supplementary assignment after announcement unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner. Assignments submitted after the deadline will not be graded unless special circumstances exist that have been approved by the examiner.

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defence University regarding special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student.

Grading

Grades are set according to a three-grade scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). Grading criteria are specified no later than the start of the course.

To earn a grade of Pass (G), the student must earn a grade of Pass for all three assessment tasks.

To earn a grade of Pass with Distinction (VG), the student must earn a grade of Pass with Distinction for the written assignment plus a grade of Pass with Distinction on at least one of the other two assessment tasks.

Restrictions in Number of Examinations

There is no limit on the total number of examination opportunities.

Restrictions Concerning Degree

The course cannot be part of a degree with other course whose content matches the content of this course in whole or in part.

Transitional Provisions

When a course is no longer provided or when the content of a course has been significantly altered, the student has the right to be examined in accordance with this course syllabus once per semester over a period of three semesters.

Miscellaneous

The course is given as an elective course within the Master's Programme in Politics, Security and War. It can also be given as a freestanding course.

The course is given in English.

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defence University on special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student.

On the completion of the course, an evaluation will be conducted under the auspices of the course director, which will form the basis for any changes to the course.



Reading List

Proxy Wars, Interventions and Covert Operations

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Revision	1.0
Reading List Valid from Date	--
Reading List Decided Date	--
