COURSE DESCRIPTION

MIGRANTS AND MINORITIES

Migrants and minorities is a course for exchange students at the undergraduate level. The course runs from week 13 to 17 in the spring term 2018.

Purpose

The purpose of the course is to introduce exchange students to concepts, theories and perspectives concerning migration, minorities and multicultural aspects in Swedish history. The focus of the course is on people moving to, from and within Sweden, and on relations between the majority and minorities, such as the Sami people.

Content

The course specifically deals with the following themes:

- Concepts and theories
- Perspectives on immigration to Sweden
- Swedish emigration
- The Sami people
- Multicultural aspects of contemporary Sweden.

Teaching

The course starts with an introductory lecture, where concepts, theories and perspectives on migration, minorities and multicultural aspects are treated to give students an overview. Thereafter, the literature of the course is treated in five seminars. Students must be prepared to discuss the literature and be active at these seminars.

Students will hand in a compulsory literature paper (3 pages), covering the literature for one assigned seminar. The paper constitutes part of the examination of the course, and must thus be completed in order to finish the course. Students are expected to be extra responsible for discussions during the seminar, for which they hand in their paper, although active participation is expected during all seminars. The study questions for the seminar should be used as a starting point for the paper. Hand in the paper through the Student portal well in time before the assigned seminar. (For further information, see separate document on literature paper)
If students do not attend a seminar, a separate written assignment must be handed in to complete that part of the course. If the literature paper is not handed in before the assigned seminar, a longer version of the paper is required.

**Lectures/seminars**

*Session 1: Introduction – concepts, theories and perspectives.*

In this session the basic concepts and theories are introduced. Students will become familiar with various perspectives on migrations and minorities in general and in Swedish history in particular.

*Session 2: Ethnicity and nationalism.*

This seminar will focus on ethnicity and nationalism as theoretical concepts and their impact on migration and minority issues, both globally and in Sweden.

*Session 3: Immigration and minorities in Swedish history.*

In this seminar the various flows of people coming to Sweden will be dealt with. Focus will be on the twentieth century, when for example labour migrants and war refugees constituted two central but also very different groups of migrants and minorities. But the seminar will also highlight immigration and minority issues in older history.

*Session 4: Emigration from Sweden.*

This seminar will focus on the period during the nineteenth and early twentieth century when 1 million people left Sweden. The various emigrant groups will be contrasted with each other, which will contribute to greater understanding for the reasons for emigration and goals of the emigrants.

*Session 5: The Saami people in Swedish history.*

This seminar will focus on the minority group of the Saami people and their relationship to the Swedish state in Swedish history. For example, the concept of internal colonialism will be discussed.

*Session 6: Contemporary Sweden – a multicultural society?*

In this seminar the focus will be on multicultural aspects in Swedish society, particularly in the late twentieth and twenty-first century. The role of the welfare state, social rights, language and culture will be regarded.
Goals and Examination

The aim of the course is that students will have:

- Basic knowledge about theories, concepts and perspectives concerning migration and minorities in Swedish history
- Knowledge about the situation for the Sami people over time
- Knowledge about multicultural aspects and their role in Swedish society

The examination consists of attendance and active participation at seminars, a literature paper and a written home exam at the end of the course. The instructions for the written home exam will be handed out at the last seminar through the Student portal. Students who have not attended a seminar will be asked to complete with a separate written assignment and those who have not handed in a literature paper will be asked to write an extended paper. Students who have failed the written exam will be given an additional assignment.

Grades: A-F

Criteria for grades:
A – the student has excellent understanding of migration and minority issues in Swedish history, can in an excellent way account for and apply theoretical perspectives and identify, discuss and evaluate different aspects of migration and minority issues and their impact on society.

B – the student has very good understanding of migration and minority issues in Swedish history, can in a very good way account for and apply theoretical perspectives and identify, discuss and evaluate different aspects of migration and minority and their impact on society.

C – the student has good understanding of migration and minority issues in Swedish history, can account for and apply theoretical perspectives and identify and discuss different aspects of migration and minority issues and their impact on society.

D – the student has basic understanding of migration and minority issues in Swedish history, can account for theoretical perspectives and identify and discuss different aspects of migration and minority issues and their impact on society.

E – the student has basic understanding of migration and minority issues in Swedish history, can to some extent account for theoretical perspectives and identify and discuss different aspects of migration and minority issues and their impact on society.

F – the student has insufficient understanding of migration and minority issues.
**Literature**


Fur, Gunlög, ”Contacts between the Saamis and the Swedish State in the 17th and 18th Centuries”, in Veniamin Alekseyev and Sven Lundkvist, eds., *State and minorities* (Stockholm: Kungl. Vitterhets- historie- och antikvitetsakademien, 1997) (12 p)


Hobsbawm, Eric, *Nations and Nationalism since 1780* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP 1990 etc) (c 200 p)


Kvist, Roger, ”Swedish Saami Policy, 1550 – 1990”, in Roger Kvist, ed., Readings in Sami history, culture and language. 3 (Umeå: Center for Arctic Cultural Research [Centrum för arktisk kulturforskning], 1992). (13 p)


Norman, Hans & Runblom, Harald, Transatlantic Connections. Nordic Migration to the New World after 1800 (Oslo, 1988) pp. 3-91, 107-140, 141-279. (259 p)


Total: 1047 p