Topics in Political Geography
National PhD Course
Fall 2019, 7.5 ECTS

Course organizers:
Dr. David Jansson, Department of Social and Economic Geography, Uppsala University
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Dr. Madeleine Eriksson, Department of Geography and Economic History, Umeå University
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Dr. Henrik Gutzon Larsen, Department of Human Geography, Lund University
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Course description:
Political geography is one of the most vibrant subdisciplines within human geography, and it has come a long way since the days when it was considered the black sheep of the discipline, after its association (through the concept of geopolitics) with Nazi Germany. Since the beginning of the revival of political geography in the 1980s, scholars have embraced the study of the spatiality of politics by reconceptualizing both “spatiality” and “politics”. Power and politics are no longer understood as solely exercised by states but are now also studied in their everyday forms, from the scale of the body to the global scale. Topics in Political Geography cannot seek to provide a comprehensive overview of political geography research, but will instead focus on a few areas of study that give course participants a taste of the breadth of the contemporary work in the field.

The course will consist of three two-day meetings (or modules), where each module will consist of three seminars and a lecture. Typically, the first day will consist of a morning and an afternoon seminar, and the second day will have a morning seminar and afternoon lecture. The language of instruction is English.

Concluding discussions:
Detailed information on how the “concluding discussions” at the end of each module will be handled will be distributed before the start of the class. But note that each module does not end until late afternoon on each Friday, so please make your travel plans accordingly (i.e., such that you can attend the entire two days of the module).

EXAMINATION:
Examination will occur by way of a final paper of approximately 5000 words. The deadline for the final paper is 16 December 2019.

TO APPLY:
We will begin accepting applications for the course starting August 12, 2019. Send an email describing your background and research project to David Jansson (david.jansson@kultgeog.uu.se) by 9 September 2019.

List of instructors:
David Jansson, Uppsala University
Madeleine Eriksson, Umeå University
Henrik Gutzon Larsen, Lund University
Carina Keskičalo, Umeå University
Charlotta Hedberg, Umeå University
Don Mitchell, Uppsala University
Hal Fischer, SLU (Uppsala)
Corine Wood-Donnelly, Uppsala University
SCHEDULE

Module 1: 26-27 September 2019, Umeå University

Theme: Political geographies of internal colonialism, natural resources and the nation

Thursday, 26 September (room: Samvetet):

9.45: Introduction to political geography (DJ)

10.30 – 12.00: Seminar 1: Northern rural Sweden in a colonial context (ME)

Readings:

13.15 – 15.00: Lecture/Art show: Bärtider (Johannes Samuelsson)

Reading:

15.30: Guided tour: Bildmuseet Animal/Art across species and beings

Friday, 27 September (room: Samvetet):

9.30 – 12.00: Seminar 2: Down-shifting and the rural (CH)

Readings:

13.15 – 15.30: Seminar 3: Implementation and power in relation to different organisational systems: the "Arctic", EU and Sweden (CK)

Readings:

16.00 – 16.30: Closing discussions
Module 2, 17-18 October 2019, Uppsala University

Theme: Nationalism and geopolitics

Thursday, 17 October:

10.00 – 12.30 (room B478): Seminar 4:
14.00 – 16.30 (room K436): Seminar 5:

Friday, 18 October:

10.15 – 11.30 (room H432): Public lecture
13.15 – 15.45 (room K436): Seminar 6
16.00 – 16.30 (K436): Concluding discussions

Module 3: 21-22 November 2019, Uppsala University

Theme: Geography, power and the state

Thursday, 21 November:

10.00 – 12.30: Seminar 7 (DM)
14.00 – 16.30: Seminar 8 (HGL)

Friday, 22 November (room H432):

9.30 – 12.00: Seminar 9 (HF)
13.15 – 14.30: Public lecture (HGL)
15.00 – 16.30: Concluding discussions

READINGS:
Specific readings for each seminar will be announced shortly.