

# Emneevaluering / course evaluation ISV

Lastet ned: 27. mai 2025 kl. 10:52

Svar-ID: 36817435

Lvert: 26.05.25 19:18

## Navn / name \*

Navn til emneansvarlig

Carl Henrik Knutsen; Ina Lyftingsmo Kristiansen

## Semester

Våren 2025

## Velg kursnivå \*

Masterkurs

\*

Bolk 2

## Emnekode / course code \*

STV4550

## Emnenavn / Course title

Topics in Autocratic Politics

## Emnerapport / course report \*

Topics in Autocratic Politics is an MA course, focusing on core areas in the study of politics in non-democratic regimes. There are ten lectures, covering six topics in the course: Fundamentals of autocratic politics; Regime Change; Doing Research on Autocratic Politics; The bureaucracy and violence in autocracies; Autocratic Elections and Mass Mobilization; and, Information Control/Autocracies in the digital age were the six topics covered in spring 2025. There is a pass/fail assignment (individual essay, choice between writing a research design assignment and responding to pre-selected essay topics), and the examination is an oral exam (30min) graded on the ECTS scale. The oral exam is split evenly between discussing the essay and topics covered in the course, overall.

Student evaluations were, also this semester, generally positive. The student contact (who had been discussing with 4-5 co-students) highlighted in particular the choice of thematics, group discussions during the lectures, and recommendations for further readings and relevant popular culture (podcasts, films, books, etc.) as especially good. Students also liked the research design assignment, due to the relevant training for writing an MA thesis.

Reviews are mixed on the oral exam format, and some students wanted even more explicit criteria on how/what they would be evaluated on (e.g. general reflection vs knowing the curriculum), and that information about the oral exam format should be discussed more in depth earlier in the course. There were also requests for including more empirical (and fewer theoretical) studies for the curriculum for some specific lectures, although the impression overall is that students are pretty satisfied with the amount and content of the readings.

The course has been consistently popular and well visited over the four semesters it's been given. Adjustments can, however, be made "one the margins" to further improve the course, along the lines suggested by some of the students. This includes looking once more at the composition of the curriculum (some more empirical studies) and clarifying the expectations and format of the oral exam.

Emneevalueringen bør inneholde:

1. Vurdering av emnet
  - Læringsutbytte i emnet
  - Undervisningsformer og organisering
  - Andre relevante temaer som læringsmiljø, studentenes arbeidsinnsats og eventuelt vurderingsformer
2. Studentens tilbakemelding
  - Oppsummering av studentenes viktigste tilbakemeldinger
3. Helhetlig vurdering og videreutvikling
  - En samlet vurdering av kvaliteten på emnet
  - Justeringer som er foretatt som følge av evalueringen.
  - Muligheter for videreutvikling av emnet

The course evaluation should include:

1. Assessment of the course
  - Learning outcomes in the course
  - Teaching methods and organization
  - Other relevant topics such as the learning environment, students' effort and possibly forms of assessment
2. Student's feedback
  - Summary of students' most important feedback
3. Overall assessment and further development
  - An overall assessment of the quality of the course
  - Adjustments made as a result of the evaluation.
  - Opportunities for further development of the course