

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



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Programme curriculum for **THE MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN  
SECURITY RISK MANAGEMENT, THE 2014 CURRICULUM,  
VALID FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2020 (EDITED 7th November 2022)**

## Indhold

1. Introduction.....	4
2. Title and affiliation.....	4
3. Programme Objective and Competence Profile.....	4
3.1 Objective.....	4
3.2 Competence Profile.....	5
3.3 Admission requirements.....	6
3.3.1 Supplementary activities.....	6
4. Programme content and academic profile.....	7
4.1 The programme's course elements.....	8
4.1.1 Programme elements.....	8
4.1.2 Compulsory courses.....	8
4.1.3 Elective Courses.....	8
4.2 Course and exam registration.....	8
4.3 Credit transfer.....	9
5. Examinations.....	9
5.1 Syllabus and literature.....	9
5.2 Exam language.....	9
5.3 Assessment.....	9
6. Course catalogue.....	11
6.1 Compulsory courses.....	11
6.1.1 Security Studies (7,5 ECTS).....	11
6.1.2 Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS).....	13
6.1.3 Security Risk Management (7,5 ECTS).....	14
6.1.4 Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS).....	16
6.1.5 Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS).....	17
6.1.6 Intelligence (7,5 ECTS).....	19
6.1.7 Transformations of the Public-Private Divide (7,5 ECTS).....	21
6.2 Elective courses.....	24
6.2.1 General learning outcome from the two specified categories of electives.....	24
6.2.2 Overall learning outcomes for New Threats.....	24
6.2.3 Overall learning outcomes for Organisational, Management, Ethics and Accountability.....	24

6.2.4 Descriptions of elective courses pertaining to the Master’s programme in Political Science .....	25
6.2.5 Exam form: Oral exam with or without preparation.....	25
6.2.6 Exam form: Oral exam based on a synopsis.....	26
6.2.7 Exam form: Free assignments and free assignments not covered by the course catalogue .....	26
6.2.8 Exam form: Three-day compulsory written take-home assignment.....	26
6.2.9 Exam form: Portfolio exam.....	27
6.4 Academic internship.....	28
6.4.1 Academic internship (15/30 ECTS) .....	28
6.4.2 Academic internship (7,5 ECTS).....	31
6.5 Master’s thesis.....	35
6.5.1 Master’s thesis for students who signed their 1 <sup>st</sup> contract November 30 (2019) or prior .....	37
6.6 Transitional scheme for students admitted prior to 1 September 2022 .....	39

## **1. Introduction**

This curriculum for the Master's programme in Security Risk Management was drawn up by the Board of Studies in the Department of Political Science at the University of Copenhagen and approved 28 October 2013 by the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen. Revised 1 September 2016 and 1 September 2020.

In addition to this Programme Specific Curriculum this programme is regulated by the Curricula's Common Part which applies to all bachelor- and master programmes at The Faculty of Social Sciences. The Curricula's Common Part contains common rules that apply to all educations on the faculty.

## **2. Title and affiliation**

Graduates are entitled to use the title Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences in Security Risk Management. The corresponding title in Danish is candidatus/candidata societatis (cand.soc.) i Sikkerheds- og Risikolelse.

The programme is affiliated with the Board of Studies at the Political Science Department at the University of Copenhagen.

The programme is affiliated with the corps of external examiners for "Political Science/Social Science" at University of Copenhagen, Aarhus University and University of Southern Denmark.

## **3. Programme Objective and Competence Profile**

### **3.1 Objective**

The programme provides students with a solid theoretical and empirical knowledge about security policy, risk analysis and organisations in a global and changeable world. Students will achieve the analytical tools to understand and analyse complex risk and security issues and developments, as well as the ability to plan and implement strategic processes in organisations and companies. The purpose of the programme is to train graduates, through critical reflection and professional insights, to identify opportunities for change in the complex and risky environments in which they operate and to put these reflections into action.

Upon graduation, graduates will have the skills and competences needed to translate their knowledge about political conditions into risk analyses and strategies in public organisations and private companies, who have to carry out large projects, analyse new market opportunities, deal with unforeseen events, estimate future investments in relation to a possible loss of legitimacy or reputation etc.

The graduates will thus be attractive to a wide range of private businesses and governmental agencies who are continuously and increasingly engaged in strategic practices, this includes trying to integrate security and emergency management into their strategies. Summing up, the graduates will be attractive in at least three ways:

- Graduates will acquire theoretical and empirical knowledge about security policy, risk analysis and organisations in a changing world.
- Graduates will acquire skills to analyse complex risk and security issues and developments, as well as the ability to plan and implement strategic processes in organisations and private companies.

- Graduates will acquire competences to translate knowledge about the political field of risk and security into risk analysis and strategies and to identify socially, politically and economically sustainable solutions and opportunities for public organisations and private companies.

### 3.2 Competence Profile

On successful completion of the programme, the graduates will be able to:

#### *Knowledge*

- Demonstrate theoretical and empirical knowledge about security policy, risk analysis and organisations in a changeable world.
- Identify, explain and interpret central methodological and analytical tools concerning issues which are linked to analysis of risk and security.
- Show an understanding of the outside world and reflect about new international developments, risk and security problems and the consequent organisational challenges in the public or private sector.

#### *Skills*

- Analyse complex issues and developments within risk and security politics.
- Plan and implement strategic processes in organisations and private companies.
- Carry out risk assessments concerning new markets and projects based on country-specific knowledge and knowledge about global risks.
- Critically reflect upon new challenges facing organisations and private companies and transform these reflections into new knowledge about future decision-making and action.
- Assess and choose between scientific theories and methods within the central subject areas and lay down scientifically based analysis and solutions on the basis of these.
- Apply skills within project management, policy formulation and risk communication to communicate complex problem areas to peers, specialists and civilians/the general public.

#### *Competences*

- Identify opportunities for organisational change in relation to the surrounding global and local risk environments.
- Consider thoroughly and rethink the management of security risk across the public and private sector, thereby developing new practices on the governance of risk and security.
- Translate knowledge about the political field of security into risk analysis and strategies for public organisations and private companies.
- Critically assess and set up solutions, which take into account both individual/civil and societal consequences.
- In a lifelong learning perspective reflect academically, critically and independently upon security risk management solutions.

### 3.3 Admission requirements

Graduates of the following programmes are considered to meet all academic admission requirements and have direct access to apply to the master's programme in Security Risk Management:

- BSc in Political Science from the University of Copenhagen
- BSc in Social Sciences with subsidiary subject from the University of Copenhagen
- BSc in Sociology from the University of Copenhagen
- BSc in Anthropology from the University of Copenhagen
- BSc in Political Science from Aarhus University
- BSc in Social Sciences with subsidiary subject from Aarhus University
- BSc in Anthropology from Aarhus University
- BSc in Political Science from the University of Southern Denmark.
- BSc in Social Sciences with subsidiary subject from the University of Southern Denmark.
- BSc in Sociology and Cultural Analysis from the University of Southern Denmark
- BSc in Sociology from Aalborg University
- BSc in Public Administration from Aalborg University
- BSc in International Business and Politics from Copenhagen Business School
- BSc in International Business from Copenhagen Business School
- BSc in Social Science with International Studies and Politics and Administration from Roskilde University
- BSc in Social Science with International Studies (one-subject) from Roskilde University
- BSc in Social Science with Politics and Administration (one-subject) from Roskilde University

Other applicants from universities in Denmark and abroad may be admitted on the basis of a specific, individual, academic assessment. In order to be admitted into the Master's programme in Security Risk Management, applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- A bachelor degree in Political Science, Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, International Studies, International Business and Politics, Peace and Conflict Studies, European Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Criminology or equivalent from a recognized university.
- The qualifying bachelor degree must contain a minimum of 15 ECTS in qualitative and/or quantitative research methods within the social sciences.
- English language proficiency on par with English at Danish B-level with a weighted grade point average of at least 3.0 not rounding up. The requirement may also be met by English on par with Danish A-level with a weighted grade point average of at least 3.0 not rounding up. Go to [studies.ku.dk](http://studies.ku.dk) to find out how the Faculty assesses foreign upper secondary school leaving certificates.

The programme has a limited number of seats. If there are more qualified applicants than seats the selection of admitted applicants is based on:

- Grade point average from the qualifying bachelor degree

#### 3.3.1 Supplementary activities

Only a Bachelor degree will be considered as the entry qualification to a Master's programme. This means that supplementary courses and the like taken after the bachelor degree will not be taken into account in the assessment.

The only exception to this is activities that have been passed before the bachelor degree was finished. These courses can either be a part of a previous education or taken as single courses. But no more than 30 ECTS credits like this can be taken into account in the assessment.

#### 4. Programme content and academic profile

The Master's programme in Security Risk Management is an English-taught programme prescribed to two student full-time equivalents (FTE) (120 ECTS credits). The figure below illustrates the composition of the compulsory and elective courses in the programme.

First term	Second term	Third term	Fourth term
<b>Security Studies</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Organization and Risk</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Master's Thesis</b> (30 ECTS)
<b>Political Risk Analysis</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	
<b>Security Risk Management</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	
<b>Knowledge Production and Evaluation</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	<b>Electives: Category I or II</b> (7,5 ECTS)	

## **4.1 The programme's course elements**

### **4.1.1 Programme elements**

The programme consists of the following constituent elements worth 120 ECTS:

- Five compulsory courses (37,5 ECTS)
- Seven elective courses chosen within 2 subject specific categories (52,5 ECTS)
- Master's thesis (30 ECTS)

It is possible to transfer a maximum of 30 ECTS from courses passed at other educational institutions in Denmark or abroad as electives. If the students wish to study a full term at another institution ("Mobilitetsvindue") it is possible during the third term of the master programme.

It also possible to replace elective courses with an academic internship (See chapter 6 for further details).

### **4.1.2 Compulsory courses**

Compulsory courses cover the three major subject areas, security, risk and strategic management, and subjects are interrelated throughout the course of study. Compulsory courses are:

- Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)
- Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)
- Security Risk Management (7,5)
- Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS)
- Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)

Please refer to chapter 6 for detailed course descriptions.

### **4.1.3 Elective Courses**

The remaining courses consist of electives from within 2 categories. Individual choices, based on previous experiences, competences or special interests, are possible and it is not required to choose course in all categories. However, the electives are grouped in order to ensure that graduates obtain a deeper understanding of risk and security decisions and management, as well as a broad perspective on international and regional political developments of importance to the security and risk practice.

The two elective categories are:

Category 1: New Threats

Category 2: Organisational Management, Ethics and Accountability

Please refer to chapter 6.2 for detailed information regarding elective courses.

## **4.2 Course and exam registration**



The administration registers students for courses and exams in mandatory courses on the first and second semester of the Security Risk Management programme. All remaining students must register for courses and exams in the registration periods.

### **4.3 Credit transfer**

Students on the Master's Programme in Security Risk Management are entitled to transfer a maximum of 30 ECTS credits from courses taken at another educational institution in Denmark or abroad. Credit transfer of a course or course elements taken on other study programmes, either in Denmark or abroad, to part of the Master's programme is conditional upon passing the course elements concerned.

It is a precondition for credit transfer that the courses taken are approved as comparable in content and level to courses within the Master's Programme in Security Risk Management at the University of Copenhagen. This requires an academic assessment and approval by the Board of Studies.

Courses are transferred along with their ECTS credits, or a converted ECTS credit weighting for courses taken in countries that do not use the ECTS system.

For more details on credit transfer, please refer to the general curriculum.

## **5. Examinations**

### **5.1 Syllabus and literature**

The Board of Studies approves the literature included in the syllabus for all courses.

Bibliographies for the syllabus and list of literature must, at least, contain information about the author, title, publisher, year of publication and the exact number of pages. When referring to periodicals, students must also state the name of the periodical, year of publication and edition number. Bibliographies follow a standard format set by the Board of Studies.

### **5.2 Exam language**

The exam language is English in all compulsory courses offered by the programme. For elective elements, the language may be Danish.

The Board of Studies is empowered to grant exemptions regarding the exam language.

### **5.3 Assessment**

An examination has been successfully completed when the assessment "Pass" or the grade 02 or higher is awarded. Examinations that have been passed cannot be taken again. All exams are graded/assessed individually, please refer to the general curriculum for more information on assessment in general.

Examinations are either internal or external marked. Internal examinations are assessed solely by the internal examiner at the University. External examinations are assessed by the internal examiner and an appointed external examiner.

The following exams are marked externally:

- Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS)
- Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)
- Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)
- Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)
- Master thesis (30 ECTS)

Externally marked exams represent at minimum of 60 ECTS and hereby fulfil the Programme Order's requirement of at least 1/3 of the programme to be marked externally.

An elective course in category 1-2 is usually marked externally, but follows the curriculum for individually course offered by the Department of Political Science.

Exams can be marked as passed/failed or by the 7-point grading scale.

The following exams are always graded by the 7-point scale:

- Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS)
- Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)
- Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)
- Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)
- Master thesis (30 ECTS)
- Electives in category 1-2 offered within the Department of Political science.

Exams graded by the 7-point scale represent at minimum 112,5 ECTS and hereby fulfil the Programme Order's requirement of no more than 40 ECTS must be graded pass/failed.

For further details on the exam and prerequisites for attending the exam please refer for chapter 6 "Course Catalogue".

## 6. Course catalogue

The courses offered on the Master's Programme in Security Risk Management are listed below.

### 6.1 Compulsory courses

#### 6.1.1 Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)

##### Course Description and Objectives

Today, security involves a wide range of policy areas and actors in society. Threats, such as international terrorism, climate change, financial crises and nuclear threats, have shaped and, in some cases, altered our view on what security is and how it should be managed. The armed forces, the police, the emergency management agency, private companies and citizens are all part of the management of today's security threats. Thus, security and security knowledge are defined from a plethora of perspectives and this makes the recognising and reconciling of different perspectives a sought after competence. The aim of this course is to give the students theoretical tools which will help them analyse the contemporary complex security environment.

The course introduces students to state-of-the-art theories, concepts and methods within security studies. It gives students knowledge about core concepts and methods within security studies, including an introduction to the theoretical development of the academic field, as well as the subfields of security studies. It will especially focus on how recent developments have brought the fields of risk- and security studies closer together. This theoretical knowledge is to be specifically linked to the practices of relevant security actors – public as well as private.

In the context of the debates on security, the course reviews and discusses the challenges that intelligence services, armed forces, parliamentarians, international organizations and private companies face. This is done in cooperation with the course "Security Risk Management" that presents the students with a wide range of cases on the management of security risks. The aim is to create a setting for theoretically informed reflection on professional practices, which will equip the students with the best possible analytical tools for understanding future global and regional political issues.

Altogether, the course consists of two main components:

1. Security studies: how should security be conceptualised, how should security be studied; and what is the relation between security- and risk studies?
2. Exercise: based on a scenario that takes its starting context from a real-life situation, for example an armed intervention, a stock market crash or a terrorist attack, the students are tasked with a strategic analysis of foreign policy choices.

The course constitutes 7,5 ECTS.

##### Learning outcome

Upon completion of the Master's programme in Security Risk Management graduates will:

##### *Knowledge*

- know the important theories, schools and methods within strategic studies and retain knowledge about the development of the field.
- have an understanding of the future development of individual theories and the field in general.

### *Skills*

- be able to evaluate and discuss security theories, and use these theories to conduct empirical analysis.
- be able to assess the scope and consequences of a wide range of threats and risks associated with the modern, globalised world.
- be able to make theoretically informed analysis of complex security challenges.

### *Competences*

- be able to analyse, assess and formulate strategies that deal with complex security issues in highly risky and malleable environments by using knowledge about security theory and security political developments.

### **Teaching**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures, guest lectures by practitioners and ongoing discussions with students. The course includes an exercise based on a real-life working situation where students are to develop specific criteria and conduct an assessment of Danish choices of policy in the form of a formal policy paper.

### **Examination**

The examination is a written portfolio exam, which consists of an exercise based on a real-life working situation and a five-day written assignment. In order to sign up for the exam in “Security Studies”, students must have conducted a prescribed exercise based on a real-life working situation and have it approved by the lecturer. The final exam takes the form of a five-day written assignment based on 2 sets of questions from which the students can choose.

The paper is assessed by an external examiner and graded according to the seven-point grading scale.

Students who fail to pass the exercise or exam can hand in a new paper according to the examination plan.

The length of the written assignment must not exceed:

- For one student: 24.000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)
- For two students: 40.800 keystrokes (17 standard pages)
- For three students: 55.200 keystrokes (23 standard pages)

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula’s Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### **Literature**

Course literature is a syllabus of 900 pages set by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies. If the syllabus includes literature that has been read previously during other courses in the Security Risk Management programme, the student must list additional literature in a supplementary literature list so that, in total, 900 pages of new literature are specified. The student must sign a solemn declaration of compliance with the rule about supplementary literature.

## 6.1.2 Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)

### Course Description and Objectives

Risk analysis is a central management tool for private companies, organisations and government agencies. Risk analysis and risk management practices define in important ways the organisation's external relations by acting as a tool to identify 'hazardous events' and thereby to define the meaning of necessary action. This course aims to introduce students to a wide range of social science literature on risk analysis as well as to thoroughly introduce students to the concepts and methods of 'political risk analysis'.

The course introduces students to a variety of approaches and methodologies in risk analysis and discusses the importance of these for organisational decision-making. The course will review how the concept of risk is understood within economics (including financial theory), anthropology and sociology, while also studying the specific empirical risk practices of private companies and public agencies. Moreover, the course will introduce the students to the relation between risk analysis and the broader concept of 'threat assessment'. In the second part of the course, the methods associated with political risk analysis will be given special attention; showing how a variety of approaches, methods and models can be used to assess the political situation in a given country or setting.

In the context of the debates on different theoretical approaches to political risk, the course reviews and discusses the challenges that private companies and governmental agencies face in conducting these analyses. Students will be tasked with conducting their own risk analysis and evaluate the societal and economic impacts of different methods and strategies.

Altogether, the course consists of 3 main components:

1. Social science approaches to risk analysis; what are the main positions in the debate on risk analysis and management, and how do they differ amongst themselves?
2. Political risk analysis; what are the main approaches and models available for political risk analysis? What can they provide and what are their shortcomings?
3. Exercise: students will be tasked with performing their own political risk analysis and, based on this analysis, execute a short written and oral presentation. The students must provide an analysis that maps the political risk of a certain investment, project or regulation and evaluate the potential implications (from possible profit for the company/partnership to political and societal consequences, etc.). In order to assess the real-life impact for companies and governmental agencies, the course will draw on the cases presented in the course "Security Risk Management" and thereby create a setting for theoretically informed reflection on professional practices.

The course "Political Risk Analysis" constitutes 7,5 ECTS.

### Learning outcome

#### *Knowledge*

Students will obtain a thorough understanding of the most important social science theories, schools and methods on risk analysis and management and have special knowledge of the means and strategies available to assess political risks. Recent developments in the field will be known and students will be able to reflect on the usefulness and future-development of individual theories and the field.

### *Skills*

Students will be able to make a theoretically informed analysis of complex risk challenges, as well as understand the different political challenges that arise from different risk management methods and techniques.

Furthermore, students will be able to apply risk management methods and techniques in a specific setting, assessing the scope and consequences of a wide range of threats and risks associated with the modern globalised world.

### *Competences*

By using knowledge about risk theories, students will be able to analyse, assess and formulate risk management processes and strategies that deals with risks in highly malleable and political environments.

### **Teaching**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures, guest lectures by practitioners and ongoing discussions with students. The course includes the development of a political risk analysis based on a real-life working situation based upon which the students must make a written and oral presentation and discuss the outcomes of the exercise with a professional from a relevant workplace.

### **Examination**

The examination is an individual oral portfolio examination which consists of a written political risk analysis, an oral presentation in class and a final oral exam. In order to sign up for exams the risk analysis document and the oral presentation must be approved by the lecturer. The final exam takes the form of an oral exam based on the written political risk analysis. The exam includes a wider discussion of the syllabus as the examiner is required to evaluate the student in relation to the entire syllabus. The assessment is based solely on the oral performance, i.e. the written risk analysis is not part of the assessment. Each student in a group (max. four) is examined individually. No other member of a group may be present during the examination. Students are allowed to bring an outline consisting of keywords (max. 100 word.) and their risk analysis paper to the exam. No comments or other marks may be added to the outline. The examination time is approximately 30 minutes.

The exam is assessed by an external examiner and graded according to the seven point scale.

Students who fail to pass the political risk analysis or the oral exam can hand in a new paper or do a resit exam according to the examination plan.

The length of the political risk analysis must not exceed 12.000 keystrokes (5 standard pages).

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### **Literature**

The syllabus consists of 900 pages, defined by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies.

## **6.1.3 Security Risk Management (7,5 ECTS)**

### **Course Description and Objectives**

Organised around a number of cases, this course introduces the practice of security risk management and gives the tools to reflect upon current developments in the corporate and political management of security risks.

In this course, students will moreover engage with conceptual and terminological analysis, as well as with different approaches to conceptual history, asking what a concept is and how we can study concepts and ideas

and how these relate to the practice of security risk management. In particular, it covers at the origins and implications of different concepts of security and risk. In the main part of the course, a number of cases associated with security risk management will be presented by relevant organisations (private and public).

During the course, several cases of security risk management will be presented different professionals. These cases will centre on a security risk management decision and contain a description of an actual situation involving a decision or challenge to an organisation or company. The students will, in teams, study different cases and provide well-founded proposals for the decision-makers, drawing on the knowledge acquired in the courses “Security Studies” and “Political Risk Analysis”. Together the cases will provide insights into the practice of security risk management and material for conceptual and theoretical reflection.

Altogether, the course consists of 2 main components:

1. Social science approaches to conceptual analysis; what are the main positions in the debate on how to study concepts? What is a concept? How can we define, analyse and evaluate the use of concepts?
2. Case presentations: The students will be introduced to 5 to 10 cases illustrating the current practice on security risk management among governmental agencies, organisations and private companies.

The course “Security Risk Management” constitutes 7,5 ECTS credits.

### **Learning outcome**

#### *Knowledge*

Students will obtain concrete knowledge on specific security risk management cases and an in-depth understanding of the most important social science approaches to the study of political concepts in order to place these cases in a wider framework. On the basis of this, students will be able to reflect on the usefulness and applicability of the different approaches.

#### *Skills*

Students will be able to analyse specific cases and evaluate the empirical, concrete and complex challenges within the field of security risk management. Furthermore, they will understand the different political and managerial challenges that arise from different security risk management methods and techniques.

#### *Competences*

Students will be able to assess and understand the political and social context of the strategy adopted to manage security risk and to evaluate the political impact of different strategies. They will furthermore be able to provide solutions to a given problem/dilemma within security risk management and thus provide usable knowledge and ideas to organizations and companies. Lastly, student will be able to critically assess those solutions, evaluate the individual/civil and societal political consequences, as well as to reflect upon their own production of security risk knowledge.

### **Teaching**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures, guest lectures by practitioners, cases, group work and discussions among and with students.

### **Examination**

The examination is an individual written portfolio exam in the form of a series of exercises and an final essay. In order to sign up for the exam, students must have conducted a number of exercises based on real-life working situations such as simulations exercises etc. The outcome of the exercises is presented to the lecturer in evaluation summaries and must all be approved by the lecturer prior to the exam . If one or more summaries is

not approved then the student can hand in a new paper prior to the exam. The evaluation summaries form the basis of the final assignment/essay. The final essay is individual and should evaluate the different uses of concepts; the occurring dilemmas and the common themes. The essay must refer to the required readings and include at least three of the cases presented in the course.

The essay is assessed internally by a member of the academic staff and marked “Pass/Fail”. If the essay or evaluation summaries are assessed as “Fail” a new paper can be submitted according the examination plan.

The essay must not exceed 24.000 keystrokes (10 standard pages).

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula’s Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### **Literature**

The syllabus consists of 900 pages. 400 pages are defined by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies, and 500 pages are selected by the student and approved by the lecturer prior to submitting the exam paper.

## **6.1.4 Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS)**

### **Course Description and Objectives**

The course introduces students to core discussions within the sociology of knowledge and expertise and equips them with the tools needed to analyse and assess complex risks. A central goal of the course is to familiarise students with the fundamental issues of knowledge production and expertise and how to evaluate quantitative and qualitative knowledge in specific issue areas. The course also gives students the tools to subsequently evaluate the performance of actors and agencies dealing with these complex and compound problems. It trains the students’ ability to estimate the validity and reliability of knowledge-based interventions into a concrete political field.

Major social scientific traditions and their implications for practical, political and analytical choices are discussed, with a special focus on complex controversies concerning risk and security issues. This will provide an overview of the usage, application and evaluation of different methodologies implied in the use of theories and choices of method. Lastly, the course introduces students to the newest research software, providing the tools for processing of larger sets of data.

Altogether, the course consists of 3 main components:

1. Social science ontology, epistemology and methodology with a specific focus on formulating and using models in risk analysis and strategy-making.
2. Evaluation and processing of quantitative and qualitative data.
3. An exercise: in this exercise, students are tasked with communicating findings in the relevant way in the relevant setting, as well as showing the ability to evaluate knowledge interventions and reflect upon their political and strategic impact. Based on a case about a security or risk-related problem, the students will be tasked with presenting acquired knowledge with a focus on methods and presentation. This will require the students to present a problem-set in the form of a memo to a superior. Secondly, students should present the problem-set in the form of an opinion editorial.

The course “Knowledge Production and Evaluation” constitutes 7,5 ECTS credits.



## **Learning outcome**

### *Knowledge*

Students will be familiarised with the fundamental issues of knowledge production. They will be able to identify, describe, examine, tabulate and interpret knowledge using different methodological and analytical strategies. They will moreover know what it means to make a reliable, valid, precise and relevant assessment and evaluation.

### *Skills*

Students will be able to classify, compare and modify different elements in the research process, evaluate methodologies and analytical results, as well as identify and track connections between different methodologies and their implicit possible consequences for data processing and analytical results. Furthermore, students will be able to apply and demonstrate their acquired knowledge in an application process, writing different types of output relevant for risk assessment and strategy formulation, including memos and policy-recommendations.

### *Competences*

Students will be able to discover, process and innovate knowledge and strategies for the management of complex threat environments. They will know how to work as evaluators under changing conditions, thus being able to decide, select and recommend possible interventions. They will, lastly, be able to explain and support their conclusions using scientific argumentation.

## **Teaching**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures, guest lectures by practitioners and ongoing discussions with students. The course includes an exercise based on a real-life working situation and focusing on communicating findings. Students must present a problem-set in the form of a memo to a superior and an opinion editorial.

## **Exam**

The exam is a written portfolio exam which consists of an exercise based on a real-life working situation and a final written assignment based on a set of questions. In order to sign up for the exam, students must have conducted and obtained approval by the lecturer. For the final written exam the students are in the middle of the semester presented with a set of qualitative and quantitative data and a set of questions that must be answered based on the dataset.

The final exam is assessed by an external examiner and graded according to the seven point scale.

Students who fail to pass the exercise or exam can hand in a new paper according to the examination plan.

The length of the final assignment must not exceed:

- For one student: 24.000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)
- For two students: 40.800 keystrokes (17 standard pages)
- For three students: 55.200 keystrokes (23 standard pages)

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

## **Literature**

Course literature is a syllabus of 900 pages set by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies.

### **6.1.5 Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)**

## **Course description**

The course introduces students to the organizational context and conditions of security risk management. While risk management has always been intrinsically related to questions of organizational survival and success, a pivotal feature of current society is the increasingly fundamental and pervasive role of risk management for and throughout all types of modern organizations. Central to this development stands an expanding and changed set of risks and security problems that organizations must handle in terms of formal structure and design as well as organizational culture.

In recognizing the mutually constitutive and evolving relationship between organization and risk, the course addresses issues such as the heightened attention to security threats and hazards in the organizational environment, the proliferation of operational risk as a key organizational agenda, the reshaping of organizational systems of planning and control as systems of risk management, as well as the pursuit of organizational resilience and preoccupation with high reliability organizations. Moreover, the course takes up the issue of the relation between organizations, society and individuals and hence the question of intended and unintended effects of organizational attempts to cope with risk and security threats.

The course constitutes 7,5 ECTS credits.

## **Learning outcome**

### *Knowledge*

Students will have in-depth knowledge of core ideas, concepts and theories about the organizational context and conditions of risk management in current society. Students will be able to identify and critically assess the issues, problems and challenges facing organizations in an environment increasingly defined by risk and security threats.

### *Skills*

Students will be able to conduct comprehensive organizational analysis and identify the problems and potentials related to the exercise of security risk management in different organizations. Students will be capable of evaluating different approaches to risk management and their appropriateness, depending on setting and organization. Furthermore, students will develop the capacity to communicate analysis and conclusions in a systematic and coherent way.

### *Competences*

Students will be able to develop and improve organizational responses to risks and security threats in both public and private organizations. They will be able to make informed and highly qualified choices taking both the strategic objectives of different organizations and the new challenges of the changing security and risk environment into account.

## **Teaching and learning formats**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures and ongoing discussions with students. The course can include reflection papers, exercises and/or casework at the discretion of the lecturer and the Board of Studies.

## **Exam**

The examination is a 5 days written exam with an asked question. Eligibility for the exam is premised on the completion of reflection papers, exercises and/or casework as determined by the lecturer and the Board of Studies prior to the start of the course.

The length of the assignment must not exceed:

- For one student: 24,000 keystrokes (10 pages)
- For two students: 40,800 keystrokes (17 pages)
- For three students: 55,200 keystrokes (23 pages)

## **Make-up and resit exam**

The make-up and resit exam is a free assignment.

The length of the assignment must not exceed:

- For one student: 36,000 keystrokes (15 standard pages)
- For two students: 60,000 keystrokes (25 standard pages)
- For three students: 84,000 keystrokes (35 standard pages)

The exam and reexamination is assessed by an external examiner and graded according to the seven-point scale. For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

## **Literature**

Course literature is a syllabus of 900 pages set by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies.

### **6.1.6 Intelligence (7,5 ECTS)**

From September 1, 2020: The course is no longer a mandatory elective.

#### **Course Description and Objectives**

Intelligence agencies have reorganised themselves in response to a new globalised threat environment and an increased digitalisation; a complex environment where many different actors play a role, either as potential enemies or as partners in the attempt to mitigate new threats. Questions like the non-detection of the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 and the misreading of intelligence on Iraq's WMD-program raised questions about the nature of intelligence knowledge, analysis method and assessments of paramount importance. In turn, this has opened the field to academia as never before.

In this course students will be introduced to the history of intelligence, study the current design of institutional structures (looking at Denmark, Great Britain and the US in particular), and examine contemporary intelligence methods and processes. Having covered the history and institutional framework of intelligence, the course considers how private companies, supplying intelligence and risk analysis to other companies and states, have become influential in today's intelligence enterprise; and asks what happens to the notion of national intelligence when companies enter the scene and turns the collection and sharing of information into a matter of competitive

business. Also, the course will treat how the division between intelligence and ‘risk analysis’ has become increasingly blurred, as ordinary production and service companies today rely more and more on ‘intelligence’ as the go-to information-type when assessing the value and risk of new investments.

In light of the many new trends in the intelligence field, the course discusses the technical, political and ethical challenges that arise therefrom, including the consequences of information inundation, digital surveillance and knowledge sharing. In particular questions of democratic accountability and responsibility will be covered.

Altogether, the course will consist of four main elements:

1. The history of national intelligence, foreign as well as domestic. What was the *raison d’être* behind the traditional understanding of intelligence and what are the main changes since the Cold War? Furthermore, we will study the institutional design of national intelligence institutions today and the institutionalised methods and processes of intelligence collection and production.
2. The development of private intelligence. What role do private actors play in the production and distribution of intelligence information?
3. Democratic, social and technical challenges. How do new intelligence methods and demands for openness, surveillance and digitalisation challenge democracy? What are the consequences for how organisations (private and public) understand accountability and responsibility?
4. Simulation exercise: students will participate in a simulation exercise designed to provide a realistic intelligence challenge; exercise the skills of conveying intelligence insights to decision-makers. The simulation will contain four stages: 1) definition of intelligence needs and assignment of roles; 2) open-source intelligence gathering and analysis, including WikiLeaks; 3) production of reports, and 4) presentation and briefing to decision-makers. We will invite public and private sector professionals to help making this simulation as realistic as possible.

The course “Intelligence” constitutes 7,5 ECTS.

### **Learning outcomes**

#### *Knowledge*

Students will be familiar with current approaches to intelligence and recent developments within the field. Moreover, students will have insight into current challenges, including the role of digitalisation, of knowledge-sharing and of privatisation.

#### *Skills*

Students will be able to reflect critically upon how new intelligence methods and demands for openness, surveillance, and digitalisation challenge democracy; understand what consequences these developments might entail in regards to organisational accountability and responsibility.

#### *Competences*

Students will be able to apply their knowledge of current trends in intelligence studies and methods to help rethink, improve and invent new practices of information sharing, collection and management of data, for private as well as public organisations/companies.

### **Teaching**

The course is a combination of classroom lectures, guest lectures by practitioners and ongoing discussions with students. The course includes an intelligence simulation exercise with a duration of approximately 3 days.

## **Examination**

The exam is an oral portfolio exam which consists of a simulation exercise and a final synopsis exam. In order to sign up for the exam in “Intelligence”, the lecturer must approve a product developed in relation to the simulation exercise. The final exam takes the form of an oral exam based on the written product. The exam includes a wider discussion of the syllabus as the examiner is required to evaluate the student in relation to the entire syllabus. The grading is based solely on the oral performance, i.e. the written product is not part of the grading. Each student in a group (max. four) is examined individually. No other member of a group may be present during the examination. Students are allowed to bring an outline consisting of keywords (max. 100 word.) and their risk analysis paper to the exam. No comments or other marks may be added to the outline. The examination time is approximately 30 minutes. The length of the synopsis must not exceed 12.000 keystrokes (5 standard pages).

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula’s Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

## **Literature**

Course literature is a syllabus of 900 pages set by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies.

### **6.1.7 Transformations of the Public-Private Divide (7,5 ECTS)**

From September 1, 2020: The course is no longer a mandatory elective.

The last course offer:

- Autumn 2019

The three last exam attempts:

- Ordinary exam winter 2019/2020
- Re-examination winter 2019/2020
- Ordinary exam summer 2020

## **Course Description and Objectives**

One of the most significant features of the modern liberal state, as it developed during the 19th and 20th centuries, is the distinction between the public and the private. Yet, during the last two decades this distinction has become blurred. Public-private partnerships, private security companies, outsourcing of key welfare state functions, private intelligence, in addition to the quickly changing expectations and experiences of the digital media are only the most visible faces of this transformation. What are the sources of this transformation? What sort of implications does it have for fundamental rights, social relations, citizenship and governance. Does it provide individuals with more opportunities or limit their freedom? Does it weaken democratic governance, while strengthening commercial interests?

The course will introduce the student to the classical political theoretical debates on the relation between the private and the public, the individual and society, the role of political and commercial institutions, and the regimes of law and values that structure the experience of the public and the private. It will examine the historical stages of this transformation and analyse its political, economic, and social consequences. The overall aim is to explore and understand the nature of these transformations, including the both new institutional forms

and new forms of political subjectivity that have emerged beyond the conventional distinction between public and private actors. It will ask what new insecurities emerge and how the risk landscape evolves.

The course explores how current developments in the understanding of risk and security structure and define the relationship between private and public authority by looking at, for example, the role of public-private partnerships, homeland security strategies on resilience, CSR, and the debate on the use of private security companies. It will attempt to open paths for understanding the private/public distinction as fundamentally contested and ask how the distinction channels power and structures experience, and thus show how profoundly political the construction of this distinction essentially is.

The course consists of 4 main components

1. The origins and genesis of the private-public distinction in liberal political theory.
2. The on-going transformation of the public-private distinction, including current challenges and debates.
3. Political, economic, and social consequences.
4. Exercise: Group paper: analysing a selected case of private-public contestation or public-private partnership.

The course constitutes 7,5 ECTS.

### **Learning outcome**

#### *Knowledge*

Students will have knowledge about the history of the public and private divide and will come to understand how current practices within the field of risk and security challenge and transform this divide.

#### *Skills*

Student will be able to reflect upon new challenges to the classical political divisions between public and private authority and understand what these transformations influence present experiences and future decision-making in the fields of risk and security.

### **Teaching**

Teaching takes the form of lectures and discussions with students.

### **Examination**

The examination is an oral portfolio exam based on a final written group assignment, approved by the lecturer. The final exam takes the form of an oral exam based on the written product. The exam includes a wider discussion of the syllabus as the examiner is required to evaluate the student in relation to the entire syllabus.

The grading is based solely on the oral performance, i.e. the written product is not part of the grading. Each student in a group (max. four) is examined individually. No other member of a group may be present during the examination. Students are allowed to bring an outline consisting of keywords (max. 100 word.) and their paper to the exam. No comments or other marks may be added to the outline. The examination time is approximately 30 minutes. The length of the synopsis must not exceed 12.000 keystrokes (5 standard pages).

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

**Literature**

Course literature is a syllabus of 900 pages set by the lecturer and approved by the Board of Studies.

## 6.2 Elective courses

The Master's programme includes 52,5 ECTS of elective elements. Elective courses must be within two specified categories of electives.

All courses in the general course catalogue of electives pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science are pre-approved to be part of one of the two categories.

Below is a general description of the core learning outcomes of courses within the two specified categories of electives (6.2.1-6.2.3) and a description of elective courses and exams pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science (6.2.4-6.2.9).

### 6.2.1 General learning outcome from the two specified categories of electives

The two specified categories of electives are:

Category 1: New Threats

Category 2: Organisational Management, Ethics and Accountability

Students will have obtained a superior understanding of the relationship between the decision-making processes of organisations (state, bureaucracies, private organizations and private enterprises), the designs of political systems, and the developments in the international threat environment. They will be able to analyse the relationship between new political developments and concrete risk management processes and to assess the impact on public organisations, as well as private companies. Based on these skills students can execute strategies and implementation processes for future organisational innovation.

### 6.2.2 Overall learning outcomes for New Threats

#### *Knowledge*

Students will have knowledge about new international threats, as well as trends, that shape and reshape the security environment. Developing on this, students will understand how new global developments affect businesses, organisations, institutions and states.

#### *Skills*

Students will retain the ability to analyse and reflect upon new threat perceptions and global developments and, on that background, evaluate the political and organisational impact on public, as well as private, organisations/companies.

#### *Competences*

Students will be able to analyse the relationship between new developments in global politics and concrete risk management processes and, based on these analyses, identify new organisational trends and solutions.

### 6.2.3 Overall learning outcomes for Organisational, Management, Ethics and Accountability

#### *Knowledge*

Students will acquire knowledge of organisational theory and the ethical managerial challenges that confront organisations and companies in their daily decision-making on risk mitigation and security; for example concerning questions of accountability, responsibility, trust and control.



### *Skills*

Students will be able to critically evaluate the ethical dimensions of organisational decisions, and identify the individual and societal consequences of these decisions.

### *Competences*

Based on these skills students will become able to execute security risk management strategies and implement processes that consider and take into account the possible ethical challenges.

## **6.2.4 Descriptions of elective courses pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science**

### **Contents**

Each semester, a range of courses is offered at Master's level. The courses offered are specified in the course catalogue ([www.kurser.ku.dk](http://www.kurser.ku.dk)).

### **Description of objectives and criteria for assessment of goal attainment**

The description of objectives varies according to the different courses, and the course catalogue varies from semester to semester. The description of objectives for each course must therefore be included in the course catalogue ([www.kurser.ku.dk](http://www.kurser.ku.dk)) for the semester concerned.

### **Extent**

The subject comprises 7.5 or 15 ECTS.

### **Literature**

The syllabus comprises 900-1,200 pages for 7.5 ECTS and 1,800-2,100 pages for 15 ECTS. The syllabus is set by the teacher and approved by the Board of Studies.

### **Teaching and working methods**

Classes are usually held during one semester as two hours per week in each subject, equivalent to 28 hours for one semester (7.5). In courses where the classes are held in one half of the semester, there are two hours of classes twice a week. The length of courses and number of hours per week may vary. Elective courses for 15 ECTS have classes for four hours per week and a total of 56 hours for a semester.

The elective courses must be established with minimum 20 and maximum 45 students. If more than 45 students are registered, the students will be admitted on the basis of their study progress.

## **6.2.5 Exam form: Oral exam with or without preparation**

### *Elective course pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science*

### **Contents**

This exam takes the form of an individual oral examination. To begin the exam, the student draws a random question prepared by the teacher. The question forms the basis for the oral exam, which also includes a wider discussion of the syllabus, as the examiner is required to assess the student in relation to the entire syllabus. The exam lasts 30 minutes in total, including grading.

For oral exams with preparation, the student is given 30 minutes to prepare before the start of the exam.

Oral exams with or without preparation can only be taken individually.

### 6.2.6 Exam form: Oral exam based on a synopsis

*Elective course pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science*

An oral exam with a synopsis takes the form of an individual oral exam based on a written paper (synopsis). The exam also includes a wider discussion within the syllabus, as the examiner is required to assess the student in relation to the entire syllabus. A synopsis may be written individually or in a group (maximum three persons). The synopsis may not exceed 7,200 keystrokes (3 standard pages). In connection with the preparation of a synopsis, the student may use supplementary literature as maximum 25% in addition to the syllabus.

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

Students are examined individually. No member of a group may be present during the other members' exams.

The assessment is based solely on the oral performance, as the synopsis is not part of the assessment. Students are allowed to bring an outline consisting of keywords (max. 100 words) and the synopsis into the exam. Comments, etc. may not be added to the outline and synopsis.

### 6.2.7 Exam form: Free assignments and free assignments not covered by the course catalogue

*Elective course pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science*

The written assignment consists of an analysis of an independently formulated problem.

The extent of the assignment may not exceed:

The extent of the assignment may not exceed:	7.5 ECTS	15 ECTS
For one student:	36,000 keystrokes (15 standard pages)	48,000 keystrokes (20 standard pages)
For two students:	60,000 keystrokes (25 standard pages)	79,200 keystrokes (33 standard pages)
For three students:	84,000 keystrokes (35 standard pages)	108,000 keystrokes (45 standard pages)

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

### 6.2.8 Exam form: Three-day compulsory written take-home assignment

*Elective course pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science*

The written assignment consists of an answer to a single question.

The extent of the take-home assignment must not exceed:

<b>The extent of the assignment may not exceed:</b>	<b>7.5 ECTS</b>	<b>15 ECTS</b>
For one student:	19,200 keystrokes (8 standard pages)	24,000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)
For two students:	24,000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)	28,800 keystrokes (12 standard pages)
For three students:	28,800 keystrokes (12 standard pages)	33,600 keystrokes (14 standard pages)

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

### 6.2.9 Exam form: Portfolio exam

*Elective course pertaining to the Master's programme in Political Science*

The portfolio exam is passed by submitting two compulsory assignments during the course. The extent of each assignment is as follows:

<b>The extent of the assignment may not exceed:</b>	<b>7.5 ECTS</b>	<b>15 ECTS</b>
For one student:	19.200 keystrokes (8 standard pages)	24.000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)
For two students:	24.000 keystrokes (10 standard pages)	28.800 keystrokes (12 standard pages)
For three students:	28.800 keystrokes (12 standard pages)	33.600 keystrokes (14 standard pages)

There will be given one grade based on the two assignments. Students who do not get their assignment approved will be able to resubmit a revised assignment once for a new assessment.

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

The make-up and resit exam is passed through a free assignment.

<b>The extent of the assignment may not exceed:</b>	<b>7.5 ECTS</b>	<b>15 ECTS</b>
For one student:	36.000 keystrokes (15 standard pages)	48.000 keystrokes (20 standard pages)
For two students:	60.000 keystrokes (25 standard pages)	79.200 keystrokes (33 standard pages)

For three students:	84.000 keystrokes (35 standard pages)	108.000 keystrokes (45 standard pages)
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See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

## 6.4 Academic internship

### Transitional curriculum

#### Students enrolled September 1, 2020 and after can

- only do an academic internship worth 15/30 ECTS as described in section 6.4.1

#### Students enrolled September 1, 2019 and before can choose to

- either do an academic internship worth 15/30 ECTS as described in section 6.4.1
- or do an academic internship worth 7.5 ECTS as described in section 6.4.2

### 6.4.1 Academic internship (15/30 ECTS)

#### Contents

The purpose of the academic internship is for the student to learn to use "security risk management in practice". Through a formalised attachment to a company, public institution, research institute or similar the student will perform tasks and at the same time be able to apply his/her academic skills in a practical context.

In addition to the formalised affiliation with a company, at the same time the student will attend a course at the department. The course takes place online via Absalon and it is thus taken into account that the student may take an academic internship outside Denmark.

During the course, the student will:

- See video lectures on "Case work" as well as "Qualified feedback", which together cover 250 pages of the syllabus.
- Give feedback on another student's considerations regarding his or her project report, in two instances.
- Submit preliminary considerations regarding the project in two instances and receive feedback from another student. The supervisor will also give feedback on both submissions.
- Submit the assignment for the exam, which consists of the project report and written feedback

It is possible to replace subject elements corresponding to 15 or 30 ECTS on the master's degree programme in political science with an academic internship.

## Descriptions of Objectives

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

- Knowledge
  - Account for the relevance of political-science studies for conditions, institutions, processes and working methods in the labour market
  - Describe and understand how political scientists work on concrete assignments related to the social sciences. This includes knowledge of the nature of the assignments, as well as the academic and non-academic requirements made
  - Knowledge of own and other political scientists' practice
- Skills
  - Identify one or more academic, relevant cases in a political-science organisation
  - Formulate precise, delimited problems – linked to the case
  - Analyse conditions, institutions, processes and/or the working methods of the company in an academic context
  - Reflect on and assess on connections between the chosen case(s) in the company with one or more theoretical and methodological approaches to political science
- Competencies
  - Take responsibility for providing relevant feedback on one fellow student's considerations concerning the project report
  - Independently and professionally collaborate, plan and coordinate tasks in a company
  - Discuss solutions to tasks in an academically qualified manner
  - Discuss solutions to tasks within the workplace's area of work through academic reflection and practical experience
  - Have the ability to independently find and acquire new research-based knowledge that contributes to solutions in the company

## Criteria for assessment of goal attainment

On assessing the project report, the required account must be taken of whether this is a report which replaces 15 or 30 ECTS for the master's degree programme in political science.

To pass the subject the student must demonstrate:

- That the selected case is of relevance to the internship site and described in a comprehensive and specific way, so that precise and delimited issues can be derived from the case
- That the derived issues allow reflection on why they are relevant for the internship site, one's own role in relation to the case and the experience gained from investigation of the case
- That the analysis more deeply considers the phenomenon described in the case. This means that the student benefits from being part of the environment at the internship site and therefore has the opportunity to combine practice experience with relevant methods and theories from political-science studies, and to evaluate their use.
- That the feedback which students give to each other is formatively formulated, i.e. is aimed at and provides specific instructions for how the fellow students' drafts and reflections can be improved on the basis of the aforementioned criteria.

## Extent

The subject comprises 15 or 30 ECTS.

## Extent of working hours

No. of ECTS	Field of work	Number of hours
15 ECTS	Working hours at the internship site	327 hours
	Project report, including feedback and preparation	85 hours
	<b>Total</b>	<b>412 hours</b>
30 ECTS	Working hours at the internship site	650 hours
	Project report, including feedback and preparation	175 hours
	<b>Total</b>	<b>825 hours</b>

## Literature

250 pages are determined by the Board of Studies concerning the case selection as well as qualified feedback.

500 pages are defined by the student.

The student is permitted to use the syllabus previously used from both the bachelor and master's degree programmes.

## Teaching and working methods

The working method is to a great extent organised independently by the student. Students are expected to work on their project reports during their academic internship, including by participating in feedback rounds via Absalon and preparing their own project reports on the basis of feedback from their fellow students.

Outline of the process:

Date	Activity	Points of special attention
	The student gains an internship	
	The student applies for prior approval for an academic internship no later than six weeks before the academic internship is to commence	<i>Use the official application form for prior approval of an academic internship. Remember to include all appendices.</i>
<b>No later than two weeks before the start of the semester</b>	The student is placed in a feedback group on Absalon with an affiliated project supervisor	
	The student views the video lecture about “Qualified feedback” as well as “Case work” via Absalon	<i>Outline of the 200-page syllabus set by the Board of Studies</i>
<b>One month and two weeks after start of the semester</b>	First submission: The student submits considerations regarding one or more empirically based cases at the internship site, preliminary problem and considerations regarding theory.  Length: 4,800-7,200 keystrokes; 2-3 standard pages	<i>Attendance is compulsory to be able to take the ordinary exam</i>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Points of special attention</b>
<b>Two months after start of the semester</b>	First feedback: The student gives feedback via Absalon on a fellow student's first submission. Length: Minimum 2,400 keystrokes; 1 standard page	<i>Attendance is compulsory to be able to take the ordinary exam</i>
<b>Three months after start of the semester</b>	Second submission: The student submits a further development of the first submission which includes the feedback received. An academic reflection must also be submitted on the connection between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The empirically based case(s) from the internship site</li> <li>• Theory and literature from political science.</li> </ul> Length: 9,600-12,000 keystrokes; 4-5 standard pages	<i>Attendance is compulsory to be able to take the ordinary exam</i>
<b>Three months and two weeks after start of the semester</b>	Second feedback: The student gives feedback via Absalon on a fellow student's first submission. Length: Minimum 4,800 keystrokes; 2 standard pages	<i>Attendance is compulsory to be able to take the ordinary exam</i>
<b>End of the semester</b>	The student submits the project report, which is a further development of the two submissions, as well as both feedback papers.	<i>Check the exam date in the exam schedule.</i>

### **Supervisor**

A project supervisor must be attached to both the academic internship and the preparation of the project report.

The student must find a supervisor among the Department's potential supervisors for Academic internship. The supervisor must agree to supervise the student.

### **Exam requirements**

Participation in the feedback group on Absalon. The student must in two instances submit considerations regarding the project report, and also in two instances give feedback on a fellow student's considerations within the deadline specified in the exam schedule. Participation in the group and submission of feedback are a precondition for taking the exam.

### **Exam form**

The exam is passed with a project report whereby the students submit their own reports, and as an appendix also submit the feedback papers prepared for a fellow student.

The exam is marked as pass/fail, with one examiner.

See section 7.5 for more information about guidelines and extent.

### **6.4.2 Academic internship (7,5 ECTS)**

Only for students who began September 1, 2019 and before

### **Last possibility to take an academic internship worth 7.5 ECTS:**

Aumtun 2020

**Three last exam attempts for an academic internship worth 7.5 ECTS:**

- Ordinary exam period, winter 2020/21
- Re-examination period, winter2020/21
- Ordinary exam period, summer 2021

**Course Description and Objectives**

The purpose of the academic internship is to enable students to gain practical experience that can give them insight into 'security risk management in practice'. The aim is that students, by their presence and active participation in performing relevant tasks in a workplace, become able to apply their academic skills in a practical context. In their final internship papers, the students should be able to reflect theoretically on issues related to the tasks performed.

It is possible to replace one elective course in the Master's programme corresponding to 7,5 ECTS credits with an academic internship. An academic internship consists of two main parts, a work-place product and an internship report.

The work product can take different forms such as a consultancy report, a power point presentation or an app. The work product should serve to help the organisation or company in question to solve or illuminate a given issue, and should therefore be defined in cooperation with the employer.

The final internship report is an academic report based on the work product. This report is based upon the academic literature and reflects methodically and/or theoretically on the work and the work product. The report must be handed in according to rules set by the Board of Studies and the work product must be handed in as an appendix to the report.

The period concerned must be at least 200 hours to be equivalent to 7,5 ECTS credits in the Master's programme. These hours can be achieved as a part time internship during one semester (maximum 15 hours a week) or as a shorter continuous period where the student works at least 30 hours per week.

Student can only complete one internship as a part of the Security Risk Management programme.

An academic internship constitutes 7,5 ECTS.

**Learning outcome***Knowledge*

Students will acquire insights into organisational practices concerning security risk management; the tasks and the demands of the labour market (both academic and non-academic) as well as and insights into how their acquired academic skills corresponds to the needs of their future the labour market.

Students will furthermore gain experiences with applying his or her theoretical and methodological knowledge from the study programme on specific security risk management issues. On the basis of this, students will be able to reflect on the usefulness and applicability of the different academic approaches to security risk management.

Finally they will understand the different political and managerial challenges arise from security risk management methods and techniques.



### *Skills*

Students will obtain the basic skills necessary to help solve tasks within the workplace's field of activity, and experience in applying these skills, specific knowledge of and insight into conditions, institutions, processes and working methods that are relevant to the security risk management programme.

Students will furthermore be able to analyse and evaluate the empirical, concrete and complex challenges within the field of security risk management.

### *Competences*

Students will be able to reflect on links between the empirical field (the student's own products developed during the internship) and the theoretical or methodological approaches to risk/security analysis.

Students will furthermore be able to assess and understand the political and social context of the strategy adopted to manage security risk and to evaluate the political impact of different strategies.

Finally the students will be able to present an analysis a logical structure and clarity of language such that the formulated problem is addressed.

### **Pre-approval**

Pre-approval of the academic internship must be applied for from the Board of Studies, and it must be granted before the internship begins. It is possible to register for an internship after the registration deadline has passed and then it will be possible to cancel courses equivalent of the 7,5 ECTS the internship replaces.

An application for pre-approval must contain the following appendixes:

- A description of the work-place product in terms of purpose, expected form and
- A document, signed by a contact person in the workplace, describing the workplace, work assignments of academic relevance and at a satisfactory academic level, the length of the placement and the number of hours worked per week
- An account of provisional ideas about the subject for the internship assignment
- The name of the project supervisor in the Department of Political Science.

Based on the information available about the proposed internship at the time of application, the Board of Studies assesses whether the internship and internship assignment are expected to replace course elements on the Master's programme. The academic internship must have an objective that complies with the competence profile of the Master's programme.

### **Supervision**

A project supervisor must be attached to the academic internship and the internship report. Supervision is normally conducted by assistant professors, associate professors or professors. Students are responsible for finding their own project supervisor. At the host organisation the student must have a contact person with sufficient academic competence to be able to offer assistance with the tasks.

### **Examination**

The examination is a written portfolio exam which consists of the work-place product and a final written assignment. The work place-product must be approved by the host organisation and be attached to the final written assignment. The final written assignment must be written as an integrated part of an internship and be based on the work product done at and for the work place. Internship reports must be handed in under the same

conditions that apply to the handing in of other written assignments, i.e. by the end of the semester during which the student has been in an internship placements.

An internship report is assessed on the seven-point scale with an internal examiner. If the report is graded -3 or 00, a new assignment on the same subject must be submitted according to the examination plan.

The grading of an internship is solely based on the final internship report, which a theoretical and/or methodology reflection of the work and work product produced by the student at the host organization.

The length of the internship report must not exceed for one student 16,800 keystrokes (7 standard pages).

For further details on what constitutes a standard page, please refer to the Curricula's Common Part for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### **Literature**

The report must refer to a minimum of 450 pages of academic literature that has not been included in previous course curricula.

## 6.5 Master's thesis

### Transitional curriculum

Below mentioned only applies to students who signs their 1<sup>st</sup> thesis contract after February 1, 2020.

Students who has signed a thesis contract 30 November 2019 and previously, are covered by the provisions for the thesis specified in section 6.5.1

### Course Description

The thesis is where the student must demonstrate proficiency in making use of methodologies and theories in an analysis of an issue relevant to security risk management. Through the work on the thesis, students must show an ability to use theories and methods of the programme to produce a major, written academic assignment on an individually chosen topic. Below is a description of learning outcomes defined in relation to thesis.

Together, the thesis process consists of three main parts: Writing the thesis, the thesis workshops and the thesis supervision.

The thesis constitutes 30 ECTS.

### Thesis learning outcome – Security Risk Management

#### *Knowledge*

- Display comprehensive knowledge of the thesis topic and relevant theory and methods.

#### *Skills*

- Ability to select, evaluate and apply relevant theoretical concepts and methodological approaches in an analysis of security risk, and, if appropriate, connect empirical analysis to theoretical insights.
- Identify and process primary or secondary theoretical and/or empirical material of relevance to the analysis.
- Communicate specialised knowledge at a high academic level in English.

#### *Competences*

- Establish clear research questions and objectives and per-form systematic and logical research on risk and security management.
- Ability to analyse and critically reflect upon challenges and possible solutions related to security risk management.

### Supervision

The supervision will be conducted in the form of cluster- and individual supervision. As an integral part of thesis-writing, students are assigned a supervisor. Supervision is conducted in clusters, of approx. 6 theses, depending on number of students and the selected topic. Supervision is normally carried out by assistant professors, associate professors or professors at department. The appointment of individual supervisors are done by the Head of Studies.

### Exam form

The master's thesis is assessed according to the 7-point grading scale, with external grading.

The student must choose one of the following thesis models for the master's thesis:

1. Classical thesis (monograph)
2. Academic article

## **Monograph**

Extent:

- For one student: 144,000-168,000 keystrokes (60-70 standard pages)
- For two students: 240,000-288,000 keystrokes (100-120 standard pages)
- For three students: 336,000-360,000 keystrokes (140-150 standard pages)

## **Academic article**

The article must be assessed by the supervisor to be an almost final draft or have been submitted to a journal. In addition to the article, an introduction is drafted in relation to the article or its subject matter, for example a more comprehensive review of the field or methodological discussions. The introduction and article must together fulfil the thesis' learning outcome objective. The academic article cannot be written in groups.

Extent:

- For one student: the article plus introduction may not exceed 120,000 keystrokes (50 standard pages).

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

## **Formal requirements**

The master's thesis must include the following:

- Summary. The summary may be written in either Danish or English. The summary must be max. one page.
- Bibliography
- Number of keystrokes. See section 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

If the thesis does not include these elements, the thesis will be rejected.

## **Front page**

The front page of the thesis must include the following:

- Title
- Name of supervisor
- Name of author
- Month and year of submission
- Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

## **Assessment**

The thesis is graded by the supervisor and an external examiner according to the seven-point scale. If a secondary supervisor has been involved in the thesis, then the principal supervisor must consult the former before grading the thesis.

A written assessment of the thesis is drawn up, which includes the grading. The grading of the thesis must not take more than one month. July is not included in the assessment period.

Writing and spelling skills form part of the overall assessment of the thesis, although the academic content will carry the greatest weight, as per the Examination Order. The Board of Studies is empowered to grant exemptions from this regulation for students who are able to document a relevant and specific impairment. When assessing a thesis, weight is also placed on the summary.

#### **Comments:**

The thesis must be prepared in the course of the second academic year. **The student must have passed 60 ECTS in the program before the thesis writing period begins.**

### **6.5.1 Master's thesis for students who signed their 1<sup>st</sup> contract November 30 (2019) or prior**

#### **Course Description**

The thesis is where the student must demonstrate proficiency in making use of methodologies and theories in an analysis of an issue relevant to security risk management. Through the work on the thesis, students must show an ability to use theories and methods of the programme to produce a major, written academic assignment on an individually chosen topic. Below is a description of learning outcomes defined in relation to thesis.

Together, the thesis process consists of three main parts: Writing the thesis, the thesis workshops and the thesis supervision.

The thesis constitutes 30 ECTS.

#### **Thesis learning outcome – Security Risk Management**

##### *Knowledge*

- Understand how to set up clear research questions and objectives and perform systematic and logical research on risk and security management.
- Display comprehensive knowledge of the thesis topic and relevant theory and methods.

##### *Skills*

- Ability to select, discuss and apply relevant theoretical concepts in an analysis of security risk, and, if appropriate, connect empirical analysis to theoretical insights.
- Set up clear research questions and objectives, and provide systematic and logic research-based answers to these questions.
- Critically select, discuss and apply relevant methodological approaches
- Identify and process primary or secondary theoretical and/or empirical material of relevance to the analysis.
- Communicate specialised knowledge at a high academic level in English.

##### *Competences*

- Ability to analyse and critically reflect upon challenges and possible solutions related to security risk management
- Critically evaluate one's own work by reflecting upon the strengths and weaknesses of the methods and theories.

## Teaching

### Supervision

The supervision will be conducted in the form of cluster- and individual supervision. As an integral part of thesis-writing, students are assigned a supervisor. Supervision is conducted in clusters, of approx. 6 theses, depending on number of students and the selected topic. Supervision is normally carried out by assistant professors, associate professors or professors at department. The appointment of individual supervisors are done by the Head of Studies.

### Exam

The thesis must be prepared in the course of the second academic year. **The student must have passed 60 ECTS in the program before the thesis writing period begins.**

Before submitting the thesis, it is compulsory to:

- a) Obtain an approval of the research question and the contract by the Head of Studies (the general thesis supervisor)
- b) Write a summary of the thesis.

The length of the thesis and the summary must not exceed:

- For one student: 192,000 keystrokes (80 standard pages)
- For two students: 336,000 keystrokes (140 standard pages)

For three students: 480,000 (200 standard pages)

### Academic article

The article must be assessed by the supervisor to be an almost final draft or have been submitted to a journal. In addition to the article, an introduction is drafted in relation to the article or its subject matter, for example a more comprehensive review of the field or methodological discussions. The introduction and article must together fulfil the thesis' learning outcome objective. The academic article cannot be written in groups.

Extent:

- For one student: the article plus introduction may not exceed 120,000 keystrokes (50 standard pages).

See 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for more information about the formal requirements for written assignments and an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

### Formal requirements

The master's thesis must include the following:

- Summary. The summary may be written in either Danish or English. The summary must be max. one page.
- Bibliography

- Number of keystrokes. See section 4.5 of the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

If the thesis does not include these elements, the thesis will be rejected.

### Front page

The front page of the thesis must include the following:

- Title
- Name of supervisor
- Name of author
- Month and year of submission
- Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

### Assessment

The thesis is graded by the supervisor and an external examiner according to the seven-point scale. If a secondary supervisor has been involved in the thesis, then the principal supervisor must consult the former before grading the thesis.

## 6.6 Transitional scheme for students admitted prior to 1 September 2022

The 2022 curriculum applies to students enrolled in the program from September 2022 and onwards. Students enrolled earlier will complete the program under the previous (2014) curriculum. For students enrolled before June 2022, the following provisions apply:

Courses at the MA in Security Risk Management, 2014 Curriculum	Courses at the MA in Security Risk Management, 2022 Curriculum
Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)	Security Studies (7,5 ECTS)
Political Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)	Risk Analysis (7,5 ECTS)
Security Risk Management* (7,5 ECTS)	Elective Course (7,5 ECTS. Designated by the Study Board)
Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)	Organization and Risk (7,5 ECTS)

Courses at the MA in Security Risk Management, 2014 Curriculum	Courses at the MA in Security Risk Management, 2022 Curriculum
Knowledge Production and Evaluation (7,5 ECTS)	Knowledge and Method (7,5 ECTS)
Elective Course (7,5 ECTS)	Elective Course (7,5 ECTS)

\*The last exam attempt in the Course "Security Risk Management" will be offered in W 22/23

The two courses "Risk Regulation and Governance" and "Risk and Uncertainty in a Connected World" offered in the 2022-curriculum can be taken as elective courses by students enrolled on the 2014-curriculum.

The 2014-curriculum will expire 31. August 2024. Hereafter students on the 2014-curriculum will be transferred to the 2022-curriculum.