

Course Memo Autumn 2026

FAK3143 Philosophy of Risk, 7.5 credits

Headings marked with an asterisk (*) are taken from the course syllabus. Other sections describe this course offering. The dates in this memo apply, and any changes are announced in Canvas.

Course offering

Autumn 2026 (start 19 October 2026, English). The course offering runs until 11 January 2027 at 33 % study pace. All teaching is given on Zoom. The first scheduled session is lecture 1 on Monday 2 November.

Language of instruction

English. This memo and the course literature are in English, and you write your work in English or Swedish. The lectures are given in Swedish and are recorded. They are not compulsory, and you can pass the course without them, since the seminars and the essay build on the texts. Seminars are held in Swedish, but the doctoral students discuss in a small group that works in English; see *Seminars*. Your writing group for the essay works in English.

Offered by

ABE/Philosophy

Content and learning outcomes

Course contents *

This is a basic course on philosophical aspects of risk and safety. The course goal is to equip students with tools, collected from different philosophical subdisciplines, that will facilitate risk analysis and risk communication.

The course is made up of lectures and seminars. In the lectures fundamental concepts used in the analysis of societal risks will be introduced, for example uncertainty, risk analysis, maximization of utility, the precautionary principle. A central part of the course is ethical analysis risks, risk assessment, and risk management.

Intended learning outcomes *

After completed course the student should be able to

- outline the basics of risk analysis
- state and explain different definitions of risk
- analyze and discuss risks, using tools from different philosophical subdisciplines
- critically question and problemize risks and risk analysis from different philosophical perspectives
- discuss ethical aspects of risks and risk analysis.

Learning activities

The course offering starts 19 October, and the first weeks have no scheduled sessions. Use them to start reading for seminar 1 and to think about a topic for your essay. Teaching starts with lecture 1 on Monday 2 November, and course weeks are counted from there. Course week 1 is 2–8 November (week 45) and course week 7 is 14–20 December (week 51). The course has two parts that run in parallel.

The seminar part (SEM1, 3.5 credits) consists of three lectures and three seminars. Before each seminar you read three texts and submit written answers to preparation questions, and at the seminar you discuss the texts and your answers. After the seminar you submit an updated version of your answers, showing what you have changed after the discussion. In January you submit a final report with your updated answers collected and a short reflection on all three seminars. The lectures are not compulsory and are recorded. Attendance at the seminars is compulsory. You can miss one of the three seminars and still pass, but you then do a completion assignment.

The essay part (TEN1, 4 credits) is an essay of 2,000–2,500 words on a risk question that you choose yourself. You write it in three steps in a writing group of usually four students: your question in course week 3, your argument in course week 5 and a draft in course week 7. After each step the group meets on Zoom and discusses each other's texts. Throughout the course you keep a handwritten journal about your essay work. On 4 January you submit the final version of the essay and present it orally.

Terms used in this memo

- **Preparation answers:** your written answers to the preparation questions before a seminar.
- **Updated answers:** your preparation answers revised after the seminar, with the changes marked.
- **Final report:** your updated answers collected, with a reflection on the seminars, submitted in January.
- **Steps 1–3:** the three stages of the essay work: the question, the argument and the draft.
- **Peer review:** your written comments on two group members' drafts in step 3.
- **Final version:** the finished essay, submitted on 4 January and assessed. The work on it after step 3 is called the final revision.
- **Completion assignment:** an assignment that replaces a missed seminar.
- **Supplementation:** submitting afterwards something that is missing, or correcting something that has not been approved. The time limits are given under *Supplementation and re-examination*.

Overview of pedagogical approach

The seminars are based on flipped learning. You read the texts and formulate your own answers before the seminar, and the seminar time is used to test and deepen the answers together with others. The lectures introduce the theme and texts of the following seminar. Your preparation answers should show that you have read the texts carefully and worked with the questions. They are input to the discussion, and you can pass even if you are unsure of an answer.

The essay is written in three steps, where each step is an earlier version of the same text. You get feedback from two directions. The teacher comments in writing on your question and your argument, and your group members read and discuss all three versions. The teacher does not read your essay text until it is assessed, so that feedback during the work cannot be taken as an indication

of the result. The steps are never assessed for quality, since they are meant to give you room to show unfinished thinking while it can still be changed.

We encourage you to take your essay question from your own research field. Risk can be understood broadly here, for example uncertain model results, safety margins, the choice of assumptions, or who bears the consequences of an error.

Expected workload

The course is 7.5 credits, which corresponds to about 200 hours of work. The figures are planning values.

Part	Hours
The seminars	
Three lectures	6
Three seminars	6
Reading and preparation questions, 15 per seminar	45
Updated answers after the seminar, 3 per seminar	9
Final report with reflection	6
The essay	
Journal, one spread a week	8
Further reading for the essay, in the course texts and possibly other literature	46
Step 1, the question	6
Step 2, the argument	10
Step 3, the draft	20
Peer review of two drafts	3
Group meetings and preparation for them	5
Final revision	25
Process appendix and presentation	5
Total	200

Suggested weekly plan

The workload is uneven. Course week 6, when you write the draft while preparing for seminar 3, is the heaviest, and the final revision of the essay falls in the Christmas break. The plan below shows how the 200 hours can be distributed.

Week	Dates	Main tasks	Hours
w. 43–44	19 Oct – 1 Nov	Read for seminar 1, think about an essay topic, introduce yourself in the forum	12
Course week 1 (w. 45)	2–8 Nov	Lecture 1, the form, answers for seminar 1, journal	18
Course week 2 (w. 46)	9–15 Nov	Seminar 1, work on the question for step 1	20
Course week 3 (w. 47)	16–22 Nov	Lecture 2, updated answers for seminar 1, step 1, reading for	23

		seminar 2	
Course week 4 (w. 48)	23–29 Nov	Group meeting, seminar 2, work on the argument	23
Course week 5 (w. 49)	30 Nov – 6 Dec	Lecture 3, updated answers for seminar 2, step 2, reading for seminar 3	24
Course week 6 (w. 50)	7–13 Dec	Group meeting, seminar 3, the draft	25
Course week 7 (w. 51)	14–20 Dec	Step 3, updated answers for seminar 3, peer review, group meeting	20
Christmas and New Year (w. 52–53)	21 Dec – 3 Jan	Final revision of the essay and the process appendix	25
w. 1	4–10 Jan	Final submission and presentation, the final report on the seminars	10
		Total	200

The plan assumes that you submit the updated answers on the Wednesday after each seminar, while the discussion is fresh. Then only the reflection remains when you put together the final report in January. You write the process appendix before you submit the final version. You may submit the final version at any time after step 3, before 4 January, if that suits you better.

Detailed plan

Lectures

Lecture 1 – Risk ontology and risk science (Per Wikman Svahn) starts with a course introduction and practical information, including about the essay. It then covers what is meant by risk, the difference between risk, uncertainty and deep uncertainty, scientific knowledge about risks, and values in science and risk management.

Lecture 2 – Risk quantification and ethical aspects of risk management (Fredrik Olsson) covers trade-offs between risks and other things, the problems of cost–benefit analysis, the problems of uncertain models for decision-making, and ethical aspects of risk management.

Lecture 3 – The precautionary principle, uncertainty and ignorance (Ingvar Mattsson) covers the precautionary principle, what we can know about the future, and decisions under uncertainty and ignorance.

The lectures are optional but strongly recommended, since they introduce the texts for the seminar that follows. They are given in Swedish, recorded and posted in Canvas.

Seminars

To pass a seminar you must

1. submit your preparation answers in Canvas by Thursday 23:59, the day before the seminar,
2. take active part in the seminar on Zoom, and

3. submit updated answers by 23:59 on the Wednesday after the seminar and have them approved.

Taking active part means that you are present for the whole seminar with your camera on and take part in the discussion in your group. If you are away for at most ten minutes, for example because your connection drops, it does not count as absence. Let the teacher know in the Zoom chat or by email. If you are away longer, the seminar counts as missed.

The deadline for preparation answers is fixed, since they are input to the seminar: answers submitted after the deadline require a completion assignment, even if they arrive before the seminar. If you miss the seminar you also do a completion assignment; see *Late or missing work*.

Preparation answers are assessed for completeness only: there must be a serious answer to each question, showing that you have read and worked with the text.

At the seminar you present your answers and discuss them in small groups and in the whole class. The seminars are held in Swedish. The doctoral students discuss in a small group that works in English. If such a group cannot be formed for a seminar, you do an alternative written assignment for that seminar instead of attending. It is described in Canvas and does not count as your completion assignment.

Seminar 1 – Risk ontology and risk science (Per Wikman Svahn): Hansson 2005, Hansson & Aven 2014 and Douglas 2000.

Seminar 2 – Risk quantification and ethical aspects of risk management (Fredrik Olsson): Hansson 2007, Hansson 2003 and Roeser 2006.

Seminar 3 – The precautionary principle, uncertainty and ignorance (Ingvar Mattsson): Sandin et al. 2002, Hansson 2009 and Aven 2013.

Full references are given under *Literature*. The preparation questions for seminar 1 are in Canvas when the course starts, and the questions for seminars 2 and 3 are published at the latest at the lecture before the seminar.

Updated answers after the seminar

After each seminar you submit an updated version of your preparation answers. This is a separate assignment in Canvas: the assignments are called Sem 1.1, 2.1 and 3.1 for the answers before the seminar and Sem 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2 for the updated answers. Do not submit the updated version as a new version in the same assignment as the preparation answers.

The updated answers must be submitted by 23:59 on the Wednesday after the seminar, that is 18 November, 2 December and 16 December.

It must be clear what you have changed after the seminar. Mark the changes in the text, for example with colour or tracked changes, and write a few lines at the top about what you have changed and why: an objection that came up in the discussion, a concept you now understand differently, or an argument you want to strengthen. If you have left an answer unchanged, explain briefly why it holds.

The updated answers are assessed as approved or not approved. They are approved when they show that you have taken the seminar discussion into account. If they are not approved you are notified in Canvas and can supplement them within two weeks of the notice.

Final report on the seminars

By **Thursday 7 January 23:59** you submit one file in Canvas with

1. your updated answers for the seminars you have taken part in, collected in one document;
2. a reflection of at most one page on how the seminars connect: which concepts or arguments recur, and how your view of risk has changed during the course.

The final report is approved when it contains the updated answers and the reflection ties the seminars together. If it is not approved you are notified by Friday 15 January and can supplement it within two weeks of the notice.

The essay

What the essay should do

An essay in philosophy of risk asks a question about a concrete risk or risk decision and defends an answer. It should

- ask a clear question about a concrete case, for example a technology, a decision, a rule or an event;
- defend an answer, the essay's thesis, with arguments;
- use at least two of the course texts to present, apply or criticise their arguments;
- test the strongest objection to the thesis and reply to it;
- end with a clearly stated conclusion.

Formal requirements

- 2,000–2,500 words. The word count covers the body text including any footnotes, but not the title, reference list or process appendix.
- References and bibliography following an established system, for example APA or Harvard.
- English or Swedish.
- Line spacing 1.5 and font size 12. You choose the typeface and margins.
- Your name and the essay title at the top.
- Submission as PDF.

The formal requirements and the requirement to use at least two of the course texts are checked before the essay is assessed. If the essay does not meet them you are notified by Friday 8 January and can supplement it within one week. The other requirements under *What the essay should do* are assessed according to the grading criteria.

Topic

You choose the topic yourself, preferably from your own research field. When the course starts there is a topic bank in Canvas with about twelve example questions linked to the three themes of the course. Each question is shown in three versions: broad, narrow and analytical.

You can change topic up to and including step 2, that is, submit step 2 with a new topic. After step 2 a change should be agreed with the teacher, for example in the open Zoom room, since most of the work then has to be redone. If you choose a topic on the precautionary principle or deep uncertainty, which lecture 3 does not cover until 30 November, you can read the texts for seminar 3 in advance.

Writing group

After lecture 1 you fill in a form in Canvas by **Wednesday 4 November 12:00**, stating which times usually suit you for group meetings. You are placed in the writing group that works in English. Groups have four students, or three when the numbers do not divide evenly. They are published on Friday 6 November.

After each step the group meets on Zoom, without a teacher, at a time you book yourselves within the period given for the step. The meeting takes 45 minutes and follows a meeting template in Canvas.

The meetings are expected of everyone but are not a requirement for passing. You get the most out of the steps if you take part. If the group does not work, for example because someone has dropped out or does not submit, contact the course coordinator. Groups that have shrunk can be merged.

Journal

During the course you keep a handwritten journal on paper, in a notebook, with one spread a week from course week 1 until the final submission. That is about nine spreads. Date each spread.

- **Your thinking:** you work out the question, the thesis, the argument map and the reply to the objection in the journal, so that it can be followed there. What you then submit in a step you transfer to the text for that step.
- **Revision plan:** right after each group meeting you write three points: what you will change, what you will not change and why, and your next step.
- **Submission:** at each step and at the final submission you photograph the spreads since last time and submit them as a separate PDF, for example with your phone's scanning function.
- **Assessment:** the journal counts as submitted when you submit the spreads you have written since last time. A missing weekly spread, for example because you have been ill, does not make the step incomplete. The journal is your own working tool, and the teacher does not read it.

Step 1: the question (course week 3)

Submit by **Thursday 19 November 09:00**. At most one page with

1. the topic and why it is a question in philosophy of risk (3–4 sentences);
2. the question in three versions: broad, narrow and analytical;
3. the question you choose, and why;
4. the course texts you expect to use.

The teacher adds at most three written comments in Canvas by **Friday 20 November 17:00**. The group meets **Saturday 21 – Tuesday 24 November**.

Step 2: the argument (course week 5)

Submit by **Thursday 3 December 09:00**:

1. what you have changed since step 1, and why (3–5 sentences);
2. an argument map with the thesis, the 2–4 arguments that support it, the strongest objection and your reply. Draw it by hand and photograph it, or write it as a bullet list;
3. an outline where each section has one line on what it does for the argument.

The teacher adds at most three written comments on the argument map in Canvas by **Friday 4 December 17:00**. The group meets **Saturday 5 – Tuesday 8 December**.

Step 3: the draft (course week 7)

Submit by **Tuesday 15 December 09:00**:

1. what you have changed since step 2 (3–5 sentences);
2. a complete but rough draft: all sections and the whole argument, at least 1,500 words, with the uncertain passages marked. The language does not need to be finished;
3. 2–3 questions you want your readers to answer.

Peer review by Thursday 17 December 12:00. Read two of your group members' drafts, as assigned in Canvas, and answer the questions in Canvas in writing. If there are fewer than two drafts to review in the group, review the ones there are.

The group meets **Thursday 17 – Sunday 20 December** and goes through the reviews. The revision plan from the meeting becomes your plan for the final revision. The teacher does not read the drafts.

Open Zoom room

On Monday 9 November and Monday 23 November 15:00–16:00, and Monday 7 December 15:00–17:00, the teacher has an open Zoom room where you can discuss your essay. No booking is needed. During Christmas and New Year, 21 December – 3 January, you cannot count on replies from the teachers.

Final submission

By **Monday 4 January 12:00** you submit

- the final version of the essay as PDF, with the process appendix at the end of the same file;
- the last journal spreads as a separate PDF.

The process appendix is at most one page and answers four questions:

1. How did your question and your thesis change during the work?
2. Which choice was the hardest?
3. Which feedback did you follow, and which did you not follow? Why?
4. How have you used AI, and where in the journal did your question and thesis develop? See *Assistance and AI statement*.

Presentation

The same day **14:00–16:00** you present your essay on Zoom in one of three parallel rooms, in a room that works in English. The allocation to rooms is published in Canvas in December. You stay in your room for the whole session. You have ten minutes for your presentation. More about the format will be in Canvas.

The presentation is a requirement for the essay to be assessed and does not affect the result. If you cannot take part on 4 January, email the course coordinator to book an individual presentation on Zoom by Friday 8 January. If you are ill then as well, book a later time, by Monday 1 February at the latest.

In KTH's schedule the session on 4 January is listed as an exam. It is the presentation of the essay. You do not need to register for the session.

Submissions and deadlines

When	What	Part
Monday 2 November, before lecture 1	Introduce yourself in the discussion forum	–
Wednesday 4 November 12:00	Form on times for the writing group	Essay
Thursday 12 November 23:59	Sem 1.1 Preparation answers, seminar 1	Seminars
Wednesday 18 November 23:59	Sem 1.2 Updated answers, seminar 1	Seminars
Thursday 19 November 09:00	Step 1 and journal	Essay
Thursday 26 November 23:59	Sem 2.1 Preparation answers, seminar 2	Seminars
Wednesday 2 December 23:59	Sem 2.2 Updated answers, seminar 2	Seminars
Thursday 3 December 09:00	Step 2 and journal	Essay
Thursday 10 December 23:59	Sem 3.1 Preparation answers, seminar 3	Seminars
Tuesday 15 December 09:00	Step 3 and journal	Essay
Wednesday 16 December 23:59	Sem 3.2 Updated answers, seminar 3	Seminars
Thursday 17 December 12:00	Peer review of two drafts	Essay
Monday 4 January 12:00	Final version with process appendix, and journal	Essay
Thursday 7 January 23:59	Final report on the seminars and any completion assignment	Seminars

What happens if something is late or missing is summarised in a table under *Examination and completion*.

Schedule

Week	Day	Time	Session	Teacher
45	Monday 2 November	15:00–17:00	Lecture 1	Per Wikman Svahn
46	Monday 9 November	15:00–16:00	Open Zoom room on the essay	Per Wikman Svahn
46	Friday 13 November	13:00–15:00	Seminar 1	Per Wikman Svahn
47	Monday 16 November	15:00–17:00	Lecture 2	Fredrik Olsson
48	Monday 23 November	15:00–16:00	Open Zoom room on the essay	Per Wikman Svahn
48	Friday 27 November	13:00–15:00	Seminar 2	Fredrik Olsson
49	Monday 30 November	15:00–17:00	Lecture 3	Ingvar Mattsson
50	Monday 7 December	15:00–17:00	Open Zoom room on the essay	Per Wikman Svahn

50	Friday 11 December	13:00–15:00	Seminar 3	Ingvar Mattsson
1	Monday 4 January	14:00–16:00	Presentation of the essay	Per Wikman Svahn, Fredrik Olsson and Ingvar Mattsson

All sessions are given on Zoom. The links are in Canvas, which opens before lecture 1, and are also sent out by email. The writing groups book their own meetings. The course offering ends on 11 January 2027.

Preparations before course start

Specific prerequisites *

Enlisted as doctorand student, and language proficiency corresponding to Swedish B/Swedish 3 and English B/English 6.

Registration and Canvas

To take the course you need the course in your individual study plan, and a Ladok administrator at your department or school must admit you to the course. Then register for the course in Ladok (student.ladok.se, under Register) while registration is open. It is your own responsibility to check when that is and to register in time; see [KTH's information on course registration](#). Registration gives you access to the course room in Canvas, which you reach through the Personal menu on kth.se.

Write a short introduction of yourself in the discussion forum before lecture 1. Start reading for seminar 1 early, and look at the topic bank.

You need a computer with a camera, a microphone and [Zoom](#), and a notebook for the journal.

Literature

Seminar 1 – Risk ontology and risk science

- Hansson, S. O. (2005). Seven myths of risk. *Risk Management* 7(2), 7–17. <https://doi.org/10.1057/palgrave.rm.8240209>
- Hansson, S. O. & Aven, T. (2014). Is risk analysis scientific? *Risk Analysis* 34(7), 1173–1183. <https://doi.org/10.1111/risa.12230>
- Douglas, H. (2000). Inductive risk and values in science. *Philosophy of Science* 67(4), 559–579. <https://doi.org/10.1086/392855>

Seminar 2 – Risk quantification and ethical aspects of risk management

- Hansson, S. O. (2007). Philosophical problems in cost–benefit analysis. *Economics & Philosophy* 23(2), 163–183. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266267107001356>
- Hansson, S. O. (2003). Ethical criteria of risk acceptance. *Erkenntnis* 59(3), 291–309. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1026005915919>
- Roeser, S. (2006). The role of emotions in judging the moral acceptability of risks. *Safety Science* 44(8), 689–700. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssci.2006.02.001>

Seminar 3 – The precautionary principle, uncertainty and ignorance

- Sandin, P., Peterson, M., Hansson, S. O., Rudén, C. & Juthe, A. (2002). Five charges against the precautionary principle. *Journal of Risk Research* 5(4), 287–299. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13669870110073729>
- Hansson, S. O. (2009). From the casino to the jungle. *Synthese* 168(3), 423–432. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-008-9444-1>
- Aven, T. (2013). On how to deal with deep uncertainties in a risk assessment and management context. *Risk Analysis* 33(12), 2082–2091. <https://doi.org/10.1111/risa.12067>

The articles are available through the KTH Library when you are logged in and are also posted in Canvas.

The course texts are enough for the essay. You may use other literature, including literature from your own field, and the KTH Library can help you search.

Support for students with disabilities

If you have a documented, permanent disability you can apply for support through [Funka](#). Apply in good time and contact the course coordinator if granted support needs to be taken into account in the course. A student entitled to adjustments may, for example, keep the journal digitally or as voice notes.

Examination and completion

Grading scale *

P, F

Examination *

- SEM1 - Seminar, 3.5 credits, grading scale: P, F
- TEN1 - Exam, 4.0 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years.

Other requirements for final grade *

- SEM1 - Seminars, 3.5 credits
- TEN1 - Examination, 4.0 credits

Course-offering examination and completion requirements

Learning outcomes and examination

Learning outcome	Examined in
outline the basics of risk analysis	SEM1
state and explain different definitions of risk	SEM1
analyze and discuss risks, using tools from different philosophical subdisciplines	SEM1 and TEN1

critically question and problemize risks and risk analysis from different philosophical perspectives	SEM1 and TEN1
discuss ethical aspects of risks and risk analysis	SEM1 and TEN1

In the seminar part the outcomes are examined through your preparation answers, the discussions, the updated answers and the final report, where you show that you can account for and use the concepts and arguments of the texts. The assessment is pass or fail.

SEM1 – Seminars, 3.5 credits

To pass (P) you need

- a pass on all three seminars, directly or through an approved completion assignment,
- approved updated answers for the seminars you have taken part in, and
- an approved final report.

SEM1 is reported when the final report is approved.

TEN1 – Exam, 4 credits

TEN1 is examined through the essay. For the essay to be assessed, all parts must be submitted: steps 1–3, the journal spreads at each step, peer review of two drafts (or of those available in the group), the final version with process appendix, and the presentation. These parts are assessed only for completeness, and each part counts as submitted when everything listed for it is included.

Only the final version is assessed. **To pass, the essay must reach at least the level corresponding to B** in the grading criteria below. In practice this means independence in your thesis and arguments, in your interpretation, and in how you assess the soundness and validity of your own and others' arguments.

If the essay is close to that level but falls short on one criterion, you are asked for a short supplement, either in writing or as a conversation on Zoom. You are notified by Friday 29 January and have two weeks to complete it. An approved supplement gives a pass.

Grading criteria for the essay

The requirements under *What the essay should do* apply at every level, and the formal requirements are checked before the essay is assessed. The table shows what each level requires. The criteria are cumulative, so each level also requires what the levels below it require. A pass requires at least level B.

Level	Additional criteria
E	Correct language. Clear references and quotations. Correct bibliography and notes (2). Answers clear questions with clearly stated conclusions. Adequate presentation of arguments and positions in the literature used.
D	Adequate and independent presentation (1) of arguments and positions in the literature used. Well-functioning structure.
C	Well-considered and consistent terminology.
B	Independence in theses, arguments, interpretation and assessment of the soundness and validity of one's own and others' arguments.

A	Highly meritorious on all criteria.
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(1) An *independent presentation* means that arguments taken from other areas are analysed and applied to the question at hand, that you argue with the support of your own examples or examples from other areas, that your own voice is clear in the argument even when the analysis is closely linked to the literature in the field, and that you propose your own ways of analysing or solving a problem.

(2) *Correct bibliography and notes* means that you choose how to present the bibliography and references yourself, but that it must follow some established system.

The requirement of an adequate presentation of arguments and positions does not mean that you should report everything in the literature, but that you should show that you can use insights or arguments from it.

Final grade

When SEM1 and TEN1 are passed you receive a final grade of pass on the course. The essays are assessed after 4 January, and the result is reported in Ladok by Friday 29 January.

Supplementation and re-examination

What	Notified by	Supplement by
Formal requirements of the essay	Friday 8 January	one week after the notice
Updated answers not approved	within two weeks of the deadline, for seminar 3 by Friday 8 January	two weeks after the notice
Final report or completion assignment not approved	Friday 15 January	two weeks after the notice
Essay close to the pass level	Friday 29 January	two weeks after the notice
Missing parts, in the seminar part or the essay work	–	Monday 1 February 2027

- **After 1 February:** what has not been submitted by then is examined at the next course offering, autumn 2027.
- **Re-examination** can be taken at the next regular course offering.

Assistance and AI statement

The seminars. You may use AI when you work with the texts and write your answers, including to formulate and translate text. The thinking must be your own, and you are responsible for all content. At the seminar you should be able to explain and defend your answers. End each submission with a line about the help you have received, from people or AI tools, and how you have used it. "I have not used AI or other help" is a complete answer when it is true.

The essay. You may use AI when you write the essay, including to formulate and translate text. The thinking must be your own: you work out the question, the thesis, the argument map and the reply to the objection yourself in the journal, and it should be possible to follow there. In the process appendix you describe how you have used AI and where in the journal your question and thesis developed. At the presentation you should be able to explain and defend the essay's argument.

Late or missing work

Part	Deadline	If it is late or missing
Preparation answers (Sem X.1)	Thursday before the seminar 23:59	The deadline is fixed. Answers submitted later require a completion assignment.
Taking part in a seminar	the seminar	A missed seminar, or absence longer than ten minutes, requires a completion assignment.
Updated answers (Sem X.2)	Wednesday after the seminar 23:59	No completion assignment, but they must be submitted by Thursday 7 January.
Final report and completion assignment	Thursday 7 January 23:59	Must be submitted by 1 February. SEM1 is reported when they are approved.
Steps 1 and 2	Thursday 09:00	Submit as soon as you can. The group reads the text only if it has arrived before the meeting, and the teacher's comments come later.
Step 3	Tuesday 15 December 09:00	The group does not need to review a late draft. You review the group's drafts as usual.
Peer review	Thursday 17 December 12:00	Your group gets less input for the meeting. It must be done for the essay to be assessed. If there are fewer than two drafts in the group, those available are enough.
Group meeting	as given for the step	Not a requirement. Read the texts anyway and write your revision plan based on the comments.
Final version with process appendix	Monday 4 January 12:00	The essay is assessed when it is submitted, by 1 February at the latest.
Presentation	Monday 4 January 14:00–16:00	Individual presentation by Friday 8 January, booked by email. If ill then too: a later time, by 1 February at the latest.

The last day for anything missing, in both parts, is Monday 1 February 2027. The time limits for supplementation are given under *Supplementation and re-examination*.

The completion assignment

The completion assignment replaces a missed seminar. It also applies when the preparation answers were submitted after the deadline. You review two anonymised sets of preparation answers from the seminar in writing and compare them with your own, about 500 words in total. Instructions are in Canvas. The completion assignment replaces both the seminar and the updated answers for that seminar. It is assessed as approved or not approved.

You can do a completion assignment for at most one seminar, since the seminar part is built on taking part in the discussions. If you miss a second seminar because of illness or another valid reason, contact the course coordinator as soon as possible, and the examiner may then allow one more completion assignment. Otherwise you cannot pass SEM1 in this course offering, and you take the missing seminars at the next course offering, autumn 2027.

Ethical approach *

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.

Contacts

Communication during course

Email questions about the course, the essay and the examination to Per Wikman Svahn, per.wikman@abe.kth.se. Expect a reply within two working days, except during Christmas and New Year. Questions about a particular seminar can be put to the teacher who leads it through Canvas. Write the course code FAK3143 in the subject line. Instructions, submissions and any changes are published in Canvas.

Course coordinator

Per Wikman Svahn

Teachers

Per Wikman Svahn

Fredrik Olsson

Ingvar Mattsson

Examiner

John Cantwell