STAT6010 – Mandatory Assignment

**Draft home exam**

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# 1. Important information

*We expect that you have read this guide for the mandatory assignment. It is important that you read* the ***entire*** *guide to avoid failing the assignment due to formal errors.*

* The draft home exam is graded pass/fail. It is mandatory, meaning it *must* be submitted and approved for you to be able to take the final home exam in STAT6010.
* The draft home exam consists of onedocument with an outline of *two essays* and you will write both.
* ***Each* of the two questions should be answered with between 250 and 990 words** (i.e. you will not get a “pass” if one or both essay drafts are shorter than 250 words or longer than 990 words). The front page and bibliography is not included in the word count, but in-text citations and any footnotes are included.
* You should use **font size 12 pt in Calibri, Arial, or Times New Roman font size**, **1.5 line spacing, and normal margins**.
* **The essays should have headlines for "Introduction", "Statement", "Discussion" and "Conclusion"** (see also section 2 on the next page).
* The draft home exam must be submitted **as a ‘work requirement’ in Qybele** (see information on your front page in Qybele).

Submissions that do not meet these formal requirements risk being failed.

More information about the mandatory assignment can be found under section 2 below. The questions can be found in the text of the final home exam (reproduced in Appendix 1 on pages 5-6 below).

The **home exam** itself will be published in Qybele. This home exam looks identical to the one in Appendix 1 on pages 5-6 of this document.

# 2. What does a "draft" for a home exam mean?

A draft home exam means that you must submit a document that provides an overview of how you will answer the home exam. The main purpose of the assignment is that you get feedback on what you think and intend to write *before* you submit the exam. The more developed your essay outlines are, the easier it is to provide feedback that you can address before the final hand in of the home exam. We therefore recommend that you try to develop as complete a draft as possible.

The *minimum* required to approve the work requirement is that the draft contains the following:

1. **What your argument for each of the two essays will be**. This and the next points may be in bullet point form.
2. **A justification for your argument.**
3. **Which syllabus texts/readings you want to use in the essays.**

*Coursework requirements that do not contain these four points will not be passed.*

# 3. How should the essay questions in the home exam be answered?

In this section we provide some advice on how you should develop the final home exam (and which may therefore be a good idea to follow also for the draft home exam). The text of the entire home exam can be found at the end of this document (see pages 4-5). It is important that you familiarize yourself with all the information provided there.

You should familiarize yourself with three resources before you start typing (only available in Norwegian):

1. **Writing course:** Home exam follows the advice on the structure, language and use of sources found in the ISIR writing course found in Qybele (Qybele > Emner > Skrivekurs ISIR > [Skrivekurs ISIR](https://qybele.no/structure/module/16426.html?resource)).
2. **Sensor Guidance:** It is also important to look at the sensor guide for home exams (Qybele > Emner > Info ISIR > Eksamensinfo > [Sensorveiledning](https://qybele.no/structure/module/10518.html?resource)), so that you know what the examiner will emphasize in their assessment of the exam.
3. **Home exam template:** This provides a Word template for setting up home exams (Qybele > Info ISIR > Help with your studies > Writing Guide and Study Techniques > [Templates](https://qybele.no/structure/module/12393.html?resource=52877)).

The answer to *each of the two essay questions* should have the following structure. In addition, you should actively use the sensor guide (Qybele > Emner > Info ISIR > Eksamensinfo > [Sensorveiledning](https://qybele.no/structure/module/10518.html?resource)) as a checklist for each section containing what it should.

* **Introduction (approx. 200 words).**  The introduction should contain:
  + A brief introduction to the answer.
  + Justification for any delimitations you choose to make.
  + What your argument in the main section will be.
  + A brief explanation of how the rest of the essay is structured.
* **Main part**
  + **Statement (approx. 100 words).**  This section will provide the basis for the discussion. This section may, for example, contain definitions of key concepts and/or a summary of the theories/perspectives that will be considered in the discussion section. It can also refer to relevant empirical data. The scope of this section will vary with the topic of the essay.
  + **Discussion (approx. 450 words).**  Together with the introduction, this is the most important part of the answer. Here you will *present and justify your main argument*. Compelling answers will use the curriculum literature to discuss their argument *against counterarguments*. They also provide clear, logical, and elaborate justifications for all arguments and refer to relevant empirical, hypothetical or theoretical examples. It is expected that terminology and any empirical data are used correctly.
* **Conclusion (approx. 150 words).**  The conclusion should include what you have argued for (your main argument) and how you have proceeded in the main body to justify your argument (i.e. a brief summary of the essay). The conclusion may also contain broader considerations and implications of your argument.

**Where relevant, students are encouraged to make use of relevant data from surveys and data sets, such as the** [**Arab Barometer**](https://www.arabbarometer.org/)**,** [**World Values Survey**](https://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp)**, or** [**Varieties of Democracy**](https://www.v-dem.net/data.html) **in their essays.**

# 4. What are the essay questions I should answer?

The essay questions can be found in the text for the final home exam on the next page.

# 5. What does the final exam look like?

You can find it on the next page.

# Appendix 1: Home exam in STAT6010

The draft home exam must have been submitted and given a “pass” in order to be eligable to submit the home exam. The draft home exam is completed in a separate submission (see coursework requirements).

**Word limit:** *Each* of the two essay questions should have 900 words, plus/minus 10%. Answers that are below or above the word count requirement (i.e. one or both essay questions are shorter than 810 words or longer than 990 words) are failed on formal grounds.

**Rating:** Grading scale A-F. The essay makes up 70 % of the total grade in the course.

**Format:** The essay should be delivered in **word format**, with 12-point font and one and a half line spacing with normal margins. The essays can be written in Norwegian or English. Remember to use a correct academic referencing format and follow the requirements for essay writing.

**Censorship Guide**  
Here you can download the home exam censorship template for the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Oslo New University College. This template shows what the examiner emphasizes in the assessment of your exam: [**Sensor guidance**](https://qybele.no/structure/module/10518.html?resource)

Important!

* Any instance of plagiarism is taken very seriously. See the writing course for guidelines.
* Answers that are not within the word count requirement will not be considered.
* The submission site closes at 12:00. Please note that essays submitted after the deadline will be considered "not delivered" and automatically failed, unless given an extension from the ONH administration.
* In the event of illness, sick leave must be entered in "Mine saker" in Qybele.
* The answer must be submitted in Qybele, no other form of submission will be considered.
* If you have problems submitting the essay, call the administration, +47 23 23 38 20 during office hours.

**ESSAY QUESTIONS:**

1. Many states in the Middle East are politically polarized. What are the main issues that divide them, and what is the reason for this division? Discuss using one or two cases from the region.
2. What are the consequences of repression and a politics of fear? Discuss using one or two cases from the Middle East.

Good luck!