

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

FRAM16, Modern French Thinkers, 7.5 credits

Moderna franska tänkare, 7,5 högskolepoäng Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the prodean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2008-04-09 to be valid from 2008-04-09, autumn semester 2008.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Master of Arts programme in Language and Linguistics specialising in French. The course is offered as a single course and can normally be included as part of a general degree at the undergraduate or graduate levels. With the approval of the relevant authenticating body, it can also be included in certain professional degrees.

Language of instruction: French

Main field of studies Depth of study relative to the degree

requirements

French A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle

course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the lives and works of French intellectuals of the 20th century
- be able to give an account of the key concepts found in intellectual writings and also of the secondary literature written about them
- be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding on what prominent French intellectuals have said and written on cultural, political, philosophical, religious and ethical issues, in an insightful manner

• be able to identify and discuss important and complex values which appear in French essays.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate a sound ability to read complex texts written by modern French thinkers
- be able to compile a corpus of relevant texts which can illustrate the ways in which a thinker treats a particular subject
- be able to carry out both spoken and written presentations of a number of selected texts, using a good level of French
- be able to reflect on his/her own ability to partake in an intellectual conversation using French of a proficient level.

Judgement and approach

- be able to discuss key concepts and principles which recur in the work of French thinkers particularly when they work from perspectives of cultural politics and the history of ideas
- be able to adopt both critical and constructive approaches to a number of key texts written by prominent French thinkers
- be able to identify and assess the value of texts within a given subject area, in an autonomous manner
- be able to illustrate the relationship between life and thought, in an insightful manner.

Course content

The course provides the students with insights into the lives and works of French thinkers of the 20th century. The lives and works of a number of French intellectuals are studied through the reading of biographies and a selection of original texts which discuss cultural, philosophical, political, religious and ethical issues. Through intense and close reading students search for answers to some of the complex cultural and social questions of our time. An emphasis is placed on issues concerning existence, identity, justice and ethics as well as the individual thinker's view on his/her role and his/her responsibility as agents in a global society. Students choose an issue to research and put together a corpus consisting of a limited number of texts, which will be used as a basis for analysis. Students shall also compile a short bibliography which should be wider in scope than the work of a single author on the chosen issue. Students practice their ability to identify complex cultural, social and ethical issues and to relate them to what prominent modern French thinkers have said and written about them.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars, some of which are scheduled without a lecturer.

Assessment

Examination takes the form of a scheduled lecture given by the student in French, which is based on a written assignment. The content of the oral presentation and written report are assessed, as is the student's oral and written command of the French language.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course requires the successful completion of 90 higher education credits, of which at least 60 are in French, or the equivalent.

Further information

1. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in FRAM16, Modern French Thinkers

Applies from V10

0801 Modern French Thinkers, 7,5 hp Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction