



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ABMA21, AI and Digitization in the Archive Sector, 7.5 credits

AI och digitalisering inom arkivsektorn, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2023-12-12 (U 2023/983). The syllabus comes into effect 2024-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a first or second-cycle degree.

Subject: Information Studies.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study *Specialisation*

- G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- give a basic account of how digital technology can be applied in the activities of archives,
- on a general level, give an account of the present-day and future relevance of AI in the archive sector,
- give an account of how digitisation and artificial intelligence influence preconditions for archive formation and their being made available,
- present the main limitations and opportunities of digitisation and AI technology,

Skills and ability

- give an account of and justify own choices in the use of AI in archival work,
- problematise questions regarding responsibility, decision making and democracy in relation to AI and autonomous systems in archival science and archive activities,
- demonstrate an understanding of various AI technologies and reflect on their usability,
- apply theories of archive science in relation to the emergence of artificial intelligence,

Judgement and approach

- critically take a position on, and discuss ethical aspects of, digitisation and AI,
- discuss ethical and legal issues pertaining to AI in archives,
- discuss AI in relation to future opportunities and challenges in a global archive context,
- analyse practical scenarios in archival science in which AI can be applied and discuss and reflect on the risks and the opportunities of this application.

Course content

The course gives an overview of the use of AI in the archive sector with a focus on principles and applications as data collection, conservation and processing of text, image, sound and video. Ethical and legal aspects are emphasised. The course also covers differences and similarities regarding laws and regulatory frameworks that control different types of archive activities.

The course explores digitisation, AI and its judicial considerations including GDPR and current EU legislation. Tools such as Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR) are discussed, as well as the use of new technologies to make archive material accessible.

The focus is on the opportunities and the challenges of digitisation and AI in archive activities. The course includes discussions of AI tools for handling archival material, their advantages and disadvantages and ethical and legal considerations.

Management and technical aspects and questions about responsibility, decision-making and democracy in relation to digitisation and AI are explored.

Course design

The course is given entirely remotely via an Internet-based virtual learning environment. Students are required to participate on this basis and to have access to a computer with an internet connection as well as working speakers, microphone and a webcam. The department will provide information about technical requirements. The teaching is based on digital lectures and discussion forum. Access to teachers for questions and supervision is given via the virtual learning environment.

Participation in the introductory lecture and discussion forum are compulsory.

Absence from compulsory components is compensated for by supplementary assignment later in the course.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on a written take-home assignment.

Re-examination of the course is offered in close connection to the regular examination.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and at least 7.5 credits archival science or equivalent knowledge and 1 year of work experience in the archive sector.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
- The number of credits allocated for course content that is shared in whole or in part with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see current registration and information materials.