



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ABMM30, Archival Studies: The Archive as Institution, Function and Phenomenon, 7.5 credits

Arkivvetenskap: Arkiv som institution, funktion och fenomen, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2011-11-08. The syllabus comes into effect 2011-11-08 and is valid from the spring semester 2012.

General information

The course is a compulsory component of the Archival Studies specialisation of the Master's Programme in Archival Studies, Library and Information Studies, Museum Studies (ALM). It is also offered as a freestanding course and can be included in a general degree at both first and second-cycle level.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study

Culture and Information Studies for Archives, Libraries and Museums

Specialisation

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- account for the process involved in aggregating records from an historical and contemporary perspective
- account for the concepts, theories and emergence of archival studies
- account for the relationship between archival information and production of knowledge, with particular focus on the distinctive nature of analogue and digital archival information as an authentic, procedural and contextual relic from the activities of the archive holder

- describe the development and conditions of archival institutions and archival professions – internationally and nationally, and in the public and private sectors
- account for and reflect on the interactions between archives and users, between archival institutions and other cultural heritage institutions and between archival institutions and the surrounding world

Competence and skills

- clarify an archive's key mission based on its task and services
- identify the rights of public administration, the research community and other user categories to archival information as well as their demand for this information
- analyse the procedural, legal, ethical, technical, societal and financial conditions for the aggregation of records

Judgement and approach

- critically evaluate the key mission of archival institutions and their working methods, their relationship with clients and funders, and their approaches to their users
- make a specialised assessment of the role archives play in people's access to information, knowledge and culture
- critically reflect and take a position on gender, ethnicity and diversity in relation to their future professional role and to archives as an institution and social service.

Course content

The students discuss the subject's terminology and theoretical starting points during the course. The aggregation of records is analysed as an authentic, procedural and contextual relic from the activities of the archive holder, and the archive is analysed as a reflection of the activities. The historical development and conditions of archival institutions and archival professions are studied. The relationship between archival institutions and users and the surrounding world is examined.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, supervised group work, peer review and study visits. The supervised group work, peer review and study visits are compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment is based on written assignment, peer review, supervised group work and study visits.

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

Admission to the course requires 90 credits or equivalent knowledge.

Further information

1. The course replaces the course ABMM20 Archival Studies: The Archive as Institution, Function and Phenomenon
2. 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.
3. The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.