



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ABMM50, Library and Information Studies: The Library as Institution, Function, and Phenomenon, 7.5 credits

Biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap: Bibliotek 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 and was last revised on 2023-12-13 (U 2023/963). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2024-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is a compulsory component of the Library and Information Studies specialisation of the Master's programme in Archival Studies, Library and Information Studies, Museum Studies. 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 library and information science concepts, subareas, central theories and emergence
- identify and describe the social conditions for different types of libraries, their activities and the relationship between knowledge organisation systems, libraries and users

- account for the historical development and present-day conditions of libraries and the library professions both internationally and nationally, and in the public and private sectors
- describe different activities, practices and storage media in which fiction, non-fiction and other document types are produced and made available, and the role of libraries in this
- account for and reflect on the interactions between libraries and users, libraries and other cultural heritage institutions, and libraries and the surrounding society.

Competence and skills

- clarify the mission statement for libraries based on their remit and services
- analyse the legal, political, ethical and information and communication technology (ICT) environment in which libraries operate.

Judgement and approach

- critically evaluate the mission statement of libraries and their working methods, relations to originators and funders, and approaches to their users
- discuss and evaluate the role of the libraries for 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 libraries as institutions and a social service.

Course content

The course addresses questions about library and information science as a research domain, including its key concepts and theories. The historical development of libraries and librarians and their contemporary conditions are studied. Furthermore, the course examines how documents are produced and communicated and what role libraries play in that process.

Course design

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

Absence from these compulsory components is to be compensated for with complementary assignments.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on a group assignment (1.5 credits), a text seminar (1 credit) and a written assignment including peer review (5 credits).

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

To be admitted to the course, the student must have completed 90 credits or possess equivalent knowledge.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
- The course replaces ABMM40 The Library: Institution, Function, and Phenomenon
- 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.