



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ABMM52, Library and Information Studies: Information Searching, Reference Services and Communication, 7.5 credits
Biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap: Informationsökning och förmedling, 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 2023-06-12. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-09-01, spring semester 2024.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Information Studies specialisation of the Master of Arts programmes in Archival Studies, Library and Information Studies, and 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

The language of instruction is primarily Swedish, but teaching in other Scandinavian languages or English may occur.

Main field of studies

Culture and Information Studies for Archives, Libraries and Museums

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of genre theory in connection with fiction, nonfiction and other document types and the interplay between genre and search strategies,
- describe and critically reflect on the conditions of the reference work and user education and implementation in different domains,

Competence and skills

- independently be able to plan search strategies and technologies appropriate for a number of various types of information retrieval system and carry out searches and relevance assessments of the documents found,
- independently be able to conduct conversations about information habits, reference tools and information sources with a representative for a specific target group and based on an analysis of the user's needs and genre knowledge,
- reflect and problematise the relationship between librarian and users based on both practical and theoretical experiences,

Judgement and approach

- discuss what consequences the increasing proportion of digital documents as well as the internet as arena have for the communication activities of librarians,
- compare and reflect on how reference work varies depending on target group, genre and different types of library,
- critically reflect on ethical aspects on conveyance and on the relationships between users, information systems and librarians.

Course content

In the course, conveyance in the form of reference work and user education based on research into the relationship between users and information systems are studied. Communication in libraries is also highlighted from an information retrieval perspective. Using knowledge of these fields and having a starting point in knowledge of genre and genre theory, the student receives both theoretical and practical knowledge of reference work. In a school placement component, the student should carry out reference conversations, search for information and evaluate this information alongside users. In the course, the relationship between librarian and users is discussed and problematised as well as the ways in which this relationship is affected by new media and new information and communication technologies.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, group exercises, laboratory exercises, supervision, text seminars and field work. Laboratory sessions and fieldwork are compulsory. Students are required to make up for any absence with a written assignment.

Assessment

The assessment is based on laboratory sessions (1.5 credits), an assignment in systematic literature search (1 credit) and a reference task (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.

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

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed the course ABMM44 or have obtained equivalent knowledge.

Further information

- The course is given at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
- The course replaces ABMM41 Library and Information Studies: Information Searching, Reference Services and Communication.
- 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.

Subcourses in ABMM52, Library and Information Studies: Information Searching, Reference Services and Communication

Applies from V24

- 2401 Laboratories, 1,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2402 Systematic Literature Search, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2403 Reference Data, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

Applies from V12

- 1101 Examination, 1,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1102 Examination, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1103 Examination, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass