



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

BBHB55, Book History: The History of Reading, 7.5 credits

Bokhistoria: Läsningsens historia, 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 2020-12-22 to be valid from 2020-12-22, autumn semester 2021.

General Information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

Cultural Sciences with specialization in Book History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- at a basic level, describe the fundamental features of the practices, development and changes to reading from the Middle Ages to the present day
- at a general level, account for the issues and theories that relate to the research on the history of the reading

Competence and skills

- highlight the history of reading, primarily in the West through examples and based on existing research
- identify and analyse relevant problems with regard to reading practices

Judgement and approach

- relate the history of reading to different social contexts
- assess different reading cultures in relation to power relations, gender and social construction.

Course content

The course provides students with knowledge of the history of reading from the Middle Ages to the present day, primarily in the West. People have read in many different ways and for different reasons throughout time and the course covers these different reading practices as well as their historical context. The reasons for and importance of different ways to read, for example, silently or out loud, will be discussed and analysed. Reading cultures, groups of readers and possession of books are studied in relation to economic and social relations as well as gender. Theories of reading and its practices are presented. History of the reading is also related to the design and production of books and other documents.

Course design

The course is offered entirely as a distance learning course and makes use of an online learning platform and/or digital tools. Optional meetings on campus may occur. Students are required to participate according to these conditions, and to have access to a computer with an internet connection. The department will provide information about the technical requirements.

Participation in 2-5 group discussions/seminars per module in a forum of an online learning platform is compulsory. Teaching consists of lectures, seminars, exercises and laboratory sessions. Optional study visits may occur.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on one shorter and one longer take-home exam.

The examiner may deviate from the regular form of examination if it cannot be implemented during a re-examination, and if it complies with the learning outcomes of the course.

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, Pass with distinction.

The grade awarded on the course is determined by the grade awarded on the longer take-home exam.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
2. The course replaces BBHB43.
3. It may be included as a Module in Book History: Level 2 (BBHA24).
4. 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.

Subcourses in BBHB55, Book History: The History of Reading

Applies from H21

2101 The History of Reading, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction