



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

FIMT16, Film and Media History: Nature and Ecology in Film and Television, 7.5 credits

Film- och mediehistoria: Natur och ekologi i film och TV, 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 2023-05-28 to be valid from 2023-09-01, spring semester 2024.

General Information

The course is included as an elective component of the Master of Arts (120 credits) programme in Film and Media History (HAFME). It can also normally be included in a general qualification in both the first and second cycle.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Film and Media History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-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 key concepts such as ecocinema, environmental humanities and posthumanism,
- on a general level, give an account of the development of genres in eco-cinema and eco-television, such as eco-horror, eco-documentary and eco-noir
- give an account of traditional depictions of nature in film and television, including their role in different national contexts as well as their cultural and societal importance and how they are called into question in the time of the climate crisis

- give an account of the relation between nature, nation and gender in film and TV series
- on a general level, give an account of environmentally-friendly methods and practices in film and TV production from an environmental perspective

Competence and skills

- from an ecocritical perspective, analyse depictions of nature and the relation between humans and non-humans in different audio-visual texts
- from an ecocritical perspective, analyse the discourse on national identity and national film as well as related film history contexts
- analyse aesthetic and genre-specific strategies that characterise eco-cinema and eco-television
- give an account of practices in sustainable film and TV production
- independently design and execute case studies in a delimited field and present them in written, audio-visual and oral forms

Judgement and approach

- evaluate how nature, the climate crisis and the relation between humans and non-humans is conveyed through film and TV, and how this varies over time and space.

Course content

The course combines different theoretical perspectives and concepts in ecocriticism and posthumanism with concrete aesthetic and genre-oriented analysis of individual audio-visual texts (feature films, documentary films, TV series, video games), with a thematic focus on the relation between humans and nature. Against a general background of the contemporary climate crisis, and a specific starting point in ecocritical and posthumanist theories, analyse how present day works relate to traditional depictions of nature in film and television, their role in different national contexts as well as their cultural and societal importance. In addition to a focus on representation, production-related practices are also analysed from an environmental perspective.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures on the required reading and a few workshops in connection with the students' independent projects. Peer feedback at two sessions is compulsory, as is a final assessment seminar.

If, due to circumstances beyond their control, such as accidents, sudden illness or similar, students are unable to carry out a compulsory component, the University is responsible for ensuring that an equivalent alternative or another time for the component is offered. This also applies to students participating in activities in an elected position as a student representative.

Assessment

The course is assessed through two written case studies and an oral seminar presentation of connected audio-visual material.

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.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have 90 credits with progressive specialisation in Film Studies, Media History or equivalent. Oral and written proficiency in English corresponding to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University, in collaboration with the Department of Communication and Media.
- 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 FIMT16, Film and Media History: Nature and Ecology in Film and Television

Applies from V24

2401 Nature and Ecology in Film and Television, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction