



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## HISB29, History: Material Perspectives on Media and Communication, 7.5 credits

*Historia: Materiella perspektiv på medier och kommunikation, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

---

### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2024-06-14 (U 2024/444). The syllabus comes into effect 2024-09-01 and is valid from the spring semester 2025.

### General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can be included in a general qualification for first or second-cycle studies.

*Language of instruction:* Swedish

*Main field of study*      *Specialisation*

-                      G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

- account for important lines of development in the history of the media from a material perspective
- understand and describe the relationship between materiality, technology, the media and culture from an extended historical perspective

Competence and skills

- critically analyse relevant changes in media history from a material perspective
- present and discuss in speech and writing different research perspectives on materiality and the media based on concrete empirical examples

Judgement and approach

- test the applicability and relevance of different media-historical perspectives on different empirical data and issues,
- evaluate and take a position on perspectives on the history of the media with regard to their material aspects and the norms that are associated with these.

## Course content

The course approaches the media and communication from material perspectives and applies an extended historical perspective, from prehistoric times to the digital media environment of today. The key topics addressed include how to analyse the media as artefacts, devices and machines, but also how material and spatial media forms relate to the use of them. The theoretical approaches highlighted include cultural technology, media use and media archaeology.

## Course design

The teaching consists of exercises, supervision, lectures and seminars. The assessed seminars (approximately four) are compulsory. The opportunity to compensate for or resit compulsory components will be offered to a student who has been unable to participate due to circumstances beyond their control such as accidents, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching sessions due to work as a student representative.

## Assessment

The assessment is based partly on active participation in the assessed seminars, and partly on a take-home exam at the end 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.

## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

For the grade of Pass, active participation on all compulsory seminars and a grade of pass on the written take-home examination are required. For a grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also have been awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the take-home examination.

## Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires completed and passed course HISA24, HISA34, HISB21 or equivalent knowledge in other humanity/social sciences subject.

## Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of History, Lund University.
- The course replaces MHIA23.
- 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 material.