



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

HISS50, Media and History: Media-historical Perspectives on Politics, Science and Culture, 7.5 credits

*Medier och historia: Mediehistoriska perspektiv på politik, vetenskap och kultur, 7,5
högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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 2025-12-01 (U 2025/620) and was last revised on 2025-12-11 (U 2025/620). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

General information

The course is given as a freestanding course. The course is an elective course in the Master's programme in Historical Studies.

Language of instruction: English

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

History

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

- be able to describe the field of media history, and current research and development work in media history,
- account for theory and method in media history,

Competence and skills

- be able to critically and systematically analyse and assess complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field of media history,
- be able to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate media history issues, propose adequate methods for their investigation and discuss the potential contribution to the development of knowledge,

Judgement and approach

- ability to make assessments in the field of media history informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and evaluate ethical aspects of research and development work,
- reflect upon the possibilities and limitations of media history research, its role in society, and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Course content

The course provides a general orientation in the transnational research field of media history, and in-depth knowledge of some of the field's specialisations at the intersection of media and history studies. A central starting point is the broad concept of media, whereby all historical sources are considered media, not only classical mass media such as film, radio and television. With the help of media archaeology and theories of media infrastructures, traditional source criticism is problematised, as is the view of the archive as a place for storing historical knowledge. The course also discusses classical media history theories and their potential for historical analyses. The application of media history theory and methodology then takes place within three broad themes: media and science, media and politics, and media and culture.

Course design

The teaching consists of 8-10 sessions, generally seminars, as well as lectures and group exercises. All teaching sessions are compulsory and require both preparation and active participation in accordance with the instructions of the course lecturer.

If a student is absent from a teaching session for a valid reason, a written supplementary assignment is required according to the instructions of the course lecturer. Supplementation is allowed as an exception: if a student misses more than three teaching sessions, these sessions can be repeated the next time the course is offered.

Assessment

The forms of examination for the course consist of an oral presentation of an outline of an idea for a media history research study and a written home exam based on a media history monograph. The grade for the completed course is based on a weighted assessment of the assessed components.

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

Entry requirements

Knowledge in English corresponding to the language requirements to meet the general entry requirements for Bachelor's level studies and a bachelor course in history or the history of ideas and science, or another subject with a historical focus or equivalent knowledge.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of History, Lund University.
- 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.
- For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.