



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

IMSB26, Intermedia studies: The Aesthetics of Popular Live Culture, 7.5 credits

Intermediala studier: Live-kultur, populärkultur och estetik, 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 2018-10-29. The syllabus comes into effect 2018-10-29 and is valid from the spring semester 2019.

General information

Subject: Intermedia studies.

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

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study

Specialisation

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- identify basic concepts, ideas and terminology within intermedia studies
- account for key features in popular culture and its historical development with an emphasis on live contexts
- account for some established views within research and theory with regard to studies of popular culture
- account for different forms of mediation included in popular culture that are expressed in various live contexts

Competence and skills

- formulate and delimit an issue of relevance for the study of popular-cultural phenomena
- explain and apply research methods appropriate for the study of popular-cultural phenomena
- on a basic level identify and analyse popular-cultural expressions based on their political, social and cultural contexts

Judgement and approach

- critically assess and relate to the aesthetics of popular culture
- assess the function and significance of popular culture in a broader societal perspective

Course content

The course deals with popular culture as an aesthetic and cultural-historical phenomenon. Emphasis is placed on intermedia dimensions of different types of popular-cultural phenomena. The course focuses on popular culture that appears in live contexts, e.g. concerts, sporting events, stand-up comedy, fairs, festivals and other activities related to the experience industry (Disneyland, Legoland, etc). In addition, the course applies a historical perspective on popular culture over the centuries.

The course also highlights research methods that are relevant for the study of popular culture, such as fieldwork, participatory observation/observation, interviews and statistics. The methods are complemented by analysis work based on theories concerning both intermediality and popular culture. At the end of the course, the students will apply a method in a minor study of an individually selected popular-cultural phenomenon that is expressed live.

Course design

The course consists of 8-9 lectures on intermediality, cultural theory and cultural history, all focusing on popular culture. Research methods are addressed in 3-4 lectures. The students will then plan and execute an individual research assignment, resulting in a paper that is to be presented orally at a final seminar.

Assessment

The assessment of the course is based partly on a written assignment (paper) based on the required reading for the course, and partly on the oral presentation of the written text.

If it is not possible, at the time of the re-take or catch-up exam, to implement the regular form of examination, there may be deviations as long as they are compatible with the course learning outcomes.

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: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent
The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a no pass is Fail.

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 is also included as a periodic module of IMSA22.
3. The course can be seen as a complement to course IMSB23, which is also about intermediality and popular culture. This course (IMSB26) takes a clearer approach to popular-cultural phenomena that appear in live contexts. The emphasis on methods is also more evident in IMSB26.
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. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.