

IMSM03, Intermedial Studies: The Medialities of the Body, 7.5 credits

Intermediala studier: Kroppens medialiteter, 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 2026-08-26 (U 2026/509). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-08-26 and is valid from the autumn semester 2027.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

The language of instruction is English. The course may also be taught in Swedish by special agreement between the teaching staff member and the students. Such an agreement requires that the teaching staff member and all students are proficient in Swedish.

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

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A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student should:

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to critically account for key concepts and perspectives within intermedial studies of the body,
- be able to analyse representations of the body within and across different media,

- be able to critically discuss the body as a medium and form of experience in cultural contexts,

Competence and skills

- be able to apply intermedial analysis to media forms involving representations of the body,
- be able to integrate theoretical perspectives from intermedial studies into analytical writing,
- be able to articulate complex ideas orally based on academic argumentation and intermedial terminology,

Judgement and approach

- be able to critically evaluate theoretical and methodological approaches,
- be able to assess the medialities of the body and their relevance in various social, cultural and medical contexts.

Course content

This course examines how the human body is shaped, understood and experienced through various media. More specifically, intermedial studies are needed to understand the body as an experience and not merely as a biological object. The course introduces perspectives that are particularly relevant to intermedial studies, focusing on how bodily experiences – such as pain, illness, vulnerability and identity – are articulated through illness narratives, medical imagery, documentary films, autofictional texts and social media. Through close readings and intermedial analyses of specific case studies, students develop a particular understanding of how the meaning of the body is created in the interplay between biological, cultural and media dimensions. The course thus develops analytical and interpretative skills, as well as the ability to reflect on how human experiences are represented and understood in different media.

Course design

Teaching takes the form of 6–8 teacher-led lectures and 2–3 compulsory seminars.

To pass the course, students must also attend at least 80% of the course lectures; if they do not, they must make up for missed components in another course intake.

If students, through no fault of their own, for example due to an accident or sudden illness, have been unable to complete one or more compulsory components, the department is responsible for ensuring that an equivalent alternative or an alternative date for the respective component is offered. This also applies to students fulfilling remits/assignments as student representatives.

Assessment

The course is assessed by means of a final written assignment (6 credits) and an oral final presentation and defence of this written assignment (1.5 credits).

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

Entry requirements

90 credits at first-cycle studies, including a bachelor's thesis in one of the following subjects: art history and visual studies, film studies, musicology, design studies, architecture, literary studies, media and communication studies, media history, or equivalent, as well as English 6/English Level 2.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
- Credit points for course content that is wholly or partly shared with another course may only be counted once towards the degree.
- For further information, please refer to the current application and information material.