



Faculty of Social Sciences

JOUA10, Journalism: Level 1, 30 credits

Journalistik: Grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-08-19 and was last revised on 2015-05-13 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2015-05-13 and is valid from the spring semester 2015.

General information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish

The language of instruction is Swedish, but some components may be taught in other Scandinavian languages or English.

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Journalism G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe the professional practice of journalism including source evaluation, interview techniques, news assessment and different editorial roles
- describe and compare different journalistic genres
- account for the structure, players and audience of the Swedish media landscape and how changes in the landscape affect the journalists' professional role

- account for the laws and regulations governing Swedish media
- explain the structure of Swedish public administration and its relation to the EU

Competence and skills

- carry out interviews according to the principles of journalistic interview technique
- apply the principle of public access to official documents by seeking, requesting and using public documents for journalistic purposes
- analyse, judge and organise material and finalise it for publication
- write simple journalistic texts within different genres
- apply perspectives of media ethics in the practical work of journalism in interviews, editing and publication,

Judgement and approach

- critically analyse and assess news and journalism
- discuss and assess the importance of the freedom of the press for democracy
- assess the societal importance of journalism from the perspectives of gender, ethnicity and class

Course content

The course consists of four modules:

1. Introduction to Journalism (7.5 credits),
2. Journalistic Genres (7.5 credits),
3. Law, Ethics and the Right to Public Access (7.5 credits),
4. Democracy, Politics and Media Power (7.5 credits).

Module 1 introduces the work of the journalist focusing on news reporting and the history of journalism.

In module 2 students examine and produce journalistic texts in different genres. The students practise the ability to employ different narrative techniques and modes of expression and to work within predetermined time frames.

Module 3 deals with the laws and regulations of the freedom of the press and freedom of expression governing Swedish media, and with Swedish public administration and its relation to the EU. The students practise relating to this framework in practical exercises.

Module 4 analyses the significance of the mass media to individuals, society and culture and how changes in the media landscape affect democracy and diversity.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars and includes compulsory introductory and exercise components. Assessed components are compulsory.

Attendance at seminars is compulsory unless there are special grounds. An alternative form or date for compulsory components is offered to students who are not able to complete a compulsory component owing to circumstances beyond their control, e.g. accident, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

Module 1 is assessed on the basis of 3-5 seminars and 2-3 written assignments.

Module 2 is assessed on the basis of 4-6 seminars, 3-4 written assignments and the composition book (25 journalistic texts in different genres written to deadlines in the last week of the module).

Module 3 is assessed on the basis of 4-5 group assignments including presentations, an assignment for two students and an individual written assignment.

Module 4 is assessed on the basis of participation in 2-3 group exercises, an oral group presentation and an assignment in academic writing.

Each module also includes assessment of active participation in editorial meetings and of individual, written reflections in which the course content is discussed from ethical or social perspectives.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass

To be awarded a grade Pass on the course, students must have been awarded the grade Pass on all modules.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have at least 90 credits including at least Level 2 in one subject and a pass in the entrance test for the Lund University degree programme in journalism.

Further information

1. This course replaces JOUA01 and JOUA11.
2. 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.
3. The course is offered at the Department of Communication and Media (KOM), Lund University.
4. Course title in Swedish: Journalistik: Grundkurs
5. Module titles in Swedish:
 1. Introduktion till journalistiken
 2. Journalistikens genrer
 3. Lagar, etik och offentlighetsprincipen
 4. Demokrati, politik och mediemakt