



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine & Performing Arts

**KONT25, Matrix, Mater, Matter, Materiality, Materialism,  
New Materialism, Old Materialism..., 15 credits**  
*Matrix, Mater, materia, materialitet, materialism, ny materialism,  
gammal materialism..., 15 högskolepoäng*  
**Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå**

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Department Board of Malmö Art Academy on 2022-09-09 to be valid from 2022-09-09, autumn semester 2022.

### General Information

Elective course within the MFA programme (KAFKO) in Fine Arts at Malmö Art Academy, Lund University

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Fine Arts

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

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

### Learning outcomes

Theoretical course. Shall provide theoretical knowledge and practical skills with relevance to the students' future artistic practice.

### Course content

"The question is not, or not only, that of the organism, history and subject of enunciation that oppose masculine to feminine in the great dualism machines. The question is fundamentally that of the body – the body they steal from us in order to fabricate opposable organisms. "

(Deleuze /Guattari, A Thousand Plateaus, p 276)

When second wave feminism was formatted in the 1970s thinkers such as Luce

Irigaray, Julia Kristeva and Helene Cixous began to connect the (female) body to writing and philosophy. Irigaray introduced the term bilabiality, Kristeva was investigating semiotics through the abject and Cixous made a close analysis to what it could mean to give birth to text.

A lively debate was formed around the position of essentialism, understood as that the (female) body through its biology possessed specific experiences that needed to be translated.

The lacanian thought of the position of the Phallus was part of this discussion. Judith Butler's performative position, where she moved (in accordance with Jacques Derrida and partly with Jacques Lacan) focus from sex to gender (Gender Trouble, Bodies That Matter) seemed to end the discussion.

Today, a new generation of thinkers such as Rosi Braidotti, Donna Haraway, Karen Barad, Elisabeth Grosz and Margrit Shildrick reopen the battlefield over the body. This time they use phenomenology and New Materialism together with posthumanism as tools.

How do we find new answers to the old question? How do we rethink and reintegrate body and mind? Or will we need to speak in plural?

The Deleuzian/Guattarian toolbox is useful: we speak of multiplicities, bodies without organs (BwO), assemblages, rhizomes, becomings when we enter into the field of leaking, nurturing, breast-feeding, birth-giving, transplanted and prosthetic minds/bodies.

Right now, 2022, Rosi Braidotti writes about Posthuman feminism. What does she mean?

New thinking is in the making. Welcome to participate!

## Course design

The teaching is conducted in the form of lectures and seminars, with elements of individual supervision by the responsible teacher.

## Assessment

For a passing grade, at least 80% attendance at seminars and lectures is required, as well as approved text when applicable.

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.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## **Grades**

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

## **Entry requirements**

Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts (180 credits) or equivalent.

Subcourses in KONT25, Matrix, Mater, Matter, Materiality, Materialism, New Materialism, Old Materialism...

Applies from H22

2201 Matrix, Mater, Matter, Materiality, Materialism..., 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass