



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

KOVE46, Technical Images: From Photography to AI, 7.5 credits

Tekniska bilder: Från fotografi till AI, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

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 2025/790). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

General information

The course is given within the framework of the Bachelor's Programme in Art History and Visual Studies and as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Art History and Visual Studies 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

- be able to describe the main types of technical images and distinguish between their characteristics (e.g. analogue photography, digital photography and AI-generated images)
- explain differences in the conditions for the production and reception of technical images in different contexts and genres,
- be able to explain different forms of truth claims related to technical images, including issues of indexicality, manipulation and provenance,
- be able to describe the main uses of images (such as private, documentary, news, fashion, scientific) and relate them to social and cultural conditions,

Competence and skills

- identify and analyse relevant problems concerning the material and cultural conditions of technical images, supported by relevant concepts and sources,
- compare and discuss how reception is affected by different materials, techniques and genres, and present the conclusions in a structured way,
- be able to carry out a systematic image analysis with basic source criticism and simple checks on the provenance of images,

Judgement and approach

- assess and justify how technical images can be interpreted in the light of their material, historical and cultural contexts, including ethical considerations,
- be able to reflect independently on their own learning and identify the need for further knowledge to develop competences in the field of the course,
- be able to argue for appropriate choices of methods and tools for image creation and image analysis for different purposes.

Course content

The course deals with images that, in various ways, claim to create visual truths. The course is thematically divided into three main parts: analogue photography, digital photography, and images produced using prompting and generative AI. In addition to the technical aspects, particular attention is paid to the social and cultural dimensions of these visual practices. The emphasis is on questions of truth claims of images and their uses in different genres and contexts, such as private images, documentary photography, news and press images, scientific images, fashion images and other forms of image production.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars and workshops.

Assessment

The assessment is based on an individual written take-home examination (7.5 credits). The exam examines all the learning outcomes of the course and is discussed in a compulsory seminar, with particular emphasis on the learning outcomes related to values and attitudes.

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

Students must meet the general entry requirements and have 60 credits in humanities or social science.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, 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.