



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

KOVN08, Visual Culture: Western Design in a Globalized World, 15 credits

*Visual Culture: Western Design in a Globalized World, 15
högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2012-12-19 to be valid from 2012-12-19, spring semester 2013.

General Information

The course is an optional component of the Master of Arts programme in Visual Culture. The course can also be studied as a freestanding course. It can normally be included as part of a general first- or second-cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached by both the teacher and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the teacher and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of studies

Visual Culture

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course students shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to account for the empirical, methodological and theoretical foundations of design studies in the field of the humanities
- be able to account for and discuss the different types of significance of design within visual culture

- be able to account for the material properties of objects and their importance in the design process

Competence and skills

- be able to apply theories and methods to the field of design in order to analyse empirical material in speech and writing, e.g. design objects, buildings and environments
- be able to describe and analyse in speech and writing design processes and objects from the perspective of theories and methods concerning design culture and its various manifestations
- be able to deal with complex issues concerning design in visual culture and formulate informed judgements for both experts and non-experts

Judgement and approach

- be able to judge and take a position on design as an aesthetic expression and social and political element of power in an in-depth manner
- be able to take a position on design as an expression of belonging and element of power with regard to gender, religion and ethnicity in an in-depth manner
- be able to make relevant assessments with regard to disciplinary, social and ethical aspects of the field of design.

Course content

Against a background of various theoretical contexts, focus is placed on the education of designers, the design process (conception and technology, aspects of function and ergonomics) and on the means of expression of design and its ideological meanings. Design is studied from various contexts of reception and use, which include experience, description, interpretation and criticism. The importance of design as an element of power within visual culture is discussed from a global perspective and with consideration to the history of the Western world.

Course design

Teaching consists of approximately 12 taught classes and seminars as well as group work and a compulsory study visit.

Assessment

The assessment is based on two individual take-home exams and active attendance at a study visit.

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

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course students must have 90 first-cycle credits including a Bachelor's thesis in one of the subjects art history and visual studies, film studies, musicology, design studies, architecture, visual anthropology or the equivalent.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
2. The course replaces KOVN01.
3. 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.

Subcourses in KOVN08, Visual Culture: Western Design in a Globalized World

Applies from H12

1201 Visual Culture: Western Design in a Globalized World, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A