



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **KOVN13, Visual Culture: Histories of Modern Visuality, 15 credits**

*Visual Culture: Histories of Modern Visuality, 15 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **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 to be valid from 2013-08-19, autumn semester 2013.

### **General Information**

The course is compulsory in 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 and discuss the development of visuality and visual perception in modern and present-day society
- be able to account in depth for scholarly theories and methods employed to analyse the manifestations, constancy and changes of visual culture

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to using appropriate concepts, participate in scholarly dialogues and debates with representatives of other disciplines addressing visual phenomena
- be able to in speech and writing communicate and offer critical perspectives on visuality in the public debate
- be able to in a broad sense, apply appropriate methods and theories to individual investigations of visual culture

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to make relevant assessments in the field of visuality informed by disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- be able to take a position on the complexity of visual culture in the past and in the present and, using appropriate concepts, formulate historical and theoretical assessments for experts as well as non-experts
- be able to discern the multi-faceted significance of visual culture for issues concerning identity, participation, integrity, control and knowledge
- be able to discern the multi-faceted significance of visual culture for aesthetic experience.

### **Course content**

The aim of the course is to provide knowledge of the development of visuality and visual perception in modern and present-day society, focusing on the development of the modern city, photography, digital culture and globalisation processes. Modern and present-day visual forms are also studied from the point of view of their continuity or discontinuity with pre-modern visual culture.

The course addresses modern and present-day visual culture from three perspectives:

- Technological and social modernisation of the life world, e.g. urbanisation, secularisation, image reproduction techniques, colonialism etc.
- New forms of presentation technologies, exhibitions, representations and visual environments that have emerged through the modernisation process, and the visual experiences, perceptions and sensibilities that have been caused by these forms
- Theoretical, philosophical and aesthetic interpretations of the effects, significance and implications of modern and present-day visual culture for the existential situation of mankind

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of taught classes, seminars, group work and study visits. Attendance is compulsory for 1-3 seminars, 1-2 study visits and 1-3 group work sessions for which assessment is scheduled. Absence is compensated for by written assignments.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on one individual written assignment and 1-3 oral examinations.

One ordinary examination and two opportunities for re-examination are offered in conjunction with the course. Within a year of the end of the course, the student is offered at least two more examination opportunities on the same course content. After that, more examination opportunities are offered, but in accordance with the valid course syllabus.

*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.

In order to be awarded a certain passing grade on the whole course, the student must have passed all assessed components and been awarded the grade in question on 75% of all assessed components.

## **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, design studies, architecture, or the equivalent.

## **Further information**

1. The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, Lund University.
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. Priority is given to students on other Master's programmes. In all other respects, ordinary admission rules apply.

## Subcourses in KOVN13, Visual Culture: Histories of Modern Visuality

Applies from H13

- 1301 Histories of Modern Visuality: Field Study, 5,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1302 Histories of Modern Visuality: Written Assignment, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A