



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

KOVN14, Visual Culture: Body and Image, 15 credits

Visual Culture: Body and Image, 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 2013-08-26 and was last revised on 2021-04-07 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology. The revised syllabus applies from 2021-04-07, autumn semester 2021.

General Information

The course is a compulsory course in the Master of Arts programme in Visual Culture. The course can also be studied as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached between the teachers and students. Such an agreement requires that all teachers and students are proficient in 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, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- account for and discuss visual representations of the human body both historically and in modern and contemporary society
- provide an advanced account of scholarly theories and artistic interpretations of visualised bodies
- provide an advanced account of theories of the concept of embodiment in different scholarly traditions

- analyse representations of the human body in scholarly and artistic genres with regard to their cultural significance

Competence and skills

- using appropriate concepts, participate in scholarly discussions and debates on visual culture with scholars from other disciplines studying visual representations of the human body
- in a broad sense, apply appropriate methods and theories to carry out individual studies on representations of the human body in the field of visual culture

Judgement and approach

- make relevant assessments of visual representations of the human body informed by disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- take a position on the complexity of the visualisation of the human body in the past and in the present and, using appropriate concepts, formulate historical and theoretical assessments for both experts and non-experts
- discern the multi-faceted significance of the visual representation of the human body for issues concerning identity, participation, integrity, control and knowledge
- discern the multif-aceted significance of the visual representation of the human body for the understanding of aesthetic experience.

Course content

The aim of the course is to study how the understanding of the human body has and is developed through its visualisations, focusing on modern and contemporary culture and considering historical perspectives.

The course addresses the visual culture of the human body from three perspectives:

- the links between visual representation and knowledge, control and power, including political, economic and legal aspects of the body in relation to medicine, bioscience and biopolitics
- the links between embodiment, individuality and subjectivity, including issues of identity, normativity and performativity in relation to ethnicity, gender, age and disability
- theoretical, philosophical and aesthetic interpretations of human existential conditions based on the visual representation of the human body.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars and 1-2 study visits.

Assessment

Assessment is based on an individual written assignment.

Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first exam, a retake and a catch-up exam. Retakes and catch-up exams are offered on the same course content within one year after the end of the course.

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, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and 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 of which 15 credits should correspond to a Bachelor's thesis in art history and visual studies, architecture, film studies, design studies 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.

Subcourses in KOVN14, Visual Culture: Body and Image

Applies from V14

1301 Body and Image, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from H13

1301 Body and Image, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A