



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 is an old version, approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-08-26 and was valid from 2013-08-26, 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

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Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

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Learning outcomes

On completion of the course students shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to account for and discuss visual representations of the human body in modern and present-day society
- be able to account in depth for scholarly theories and artistic interpretations of visualised bodies

- be able to account in depth and from historical and contextual perspectives for different theories of the concept of embodiment
- be able to analyse representations of the human body in relation to the manifestations, constancy and changes of visual culture.

Competence and skills

- be able to using appropriate concepts, participate in discussions and debates on visual culture with scholars from other disciplines investigating representations of the human body
- be able to communicate in speech and writing and take part in public debates with critical perspective on representations of the human body
- be able to in a broad sense, apply appropriate methods and theories to individual investigations of representations of the human body in the field of visual culture.

Judgement and approach

- be able to make relevant assessments of visual representation of the human body informed by disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- be able to take a position on the complexity of the visual representation of the human body 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 the visual representation of the human body for issues concerning identity, participation, integrity, control and knowledge
- be able to discern the multi-faceted significance of the visual representation of the human body for aesthetic experience.

Course content

The aim of the course is to study the development of the visually represented human body in modern and present-day society, focusing on representation, exposure and suppression of bodies in different social, cultural and artistic contexts. The visual representations of the human body are also studied from the point of view of their continuity or discontinuity with pre-modern visual culture.

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

- the links between visual representations and knowledge, control and power, i.e. political, economic and legal aspects of the body in relation to bioscience, bioeconomics and biopolitics
- the links between embodiment, individuality and subjectivity, including issues of identity, normativity and performativity in relation to ethnicity, race, gender, age and disability, etc.
- theoretical, philosophical and aesthetic interpretations of the effects and significance of the visually represented human body for the links between materiality and visibility and their consequences for the existential conditions 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. A year after the end of the course, the student is offered 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.

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 studying other Master's programmes specialising in visual studies. In other respects normal admission rules apply.

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