

LIVA05, Comparative Literature: Contemporary Literature, 30 credits

Litteraturvetenskap: Den samtida litteraturen, 30 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2016-10-25 and was last revised on 2025-09-08 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/638). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-09-09 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

Subject: Comparative Literature

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a general qualification for first or second-cycle studies.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study

Specialisation

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G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- account for key trends and works in present-day literature, from 2000 and onwards
- describe and exemplify the conditions of contemporary literature,

Competence and skills

- analyse and interpret contemporary literary texts
- informed by basic terms and concepts with regard to present-day literature, discuss , write about and orally present literature in different contexts
- within predetermined time frames identify, formulate and execute independent assignments in which issues of present-day literature are addressed from a fundamentally scholarly perspective

Judgement and approach

- relate the values of present-day literature and literary studies to general societal and scholarly approaches
- judge and assess interpretations of various present-day literary works
- identify their own need for further knowledge and expertise.

Course content

The course provides students with knowledge of present-day literature from 2000 and onward, in Sweden, Europe and the world. It deals with a number of phenomena and tendencies in present-day literature and introduces concepts and perspectives of literary studies that are relevant to the study of present-day literature. On completion of the course, the student shall have acquired basic skills in analysing, interpreting and contextualising literature from recent decades.

Moreover, the course enables the student to communicate knowledge and experiences of literature through practical applications in speech and writing.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Present-Day Literature - An Introduction, 6 credits
2. World Literature, Home and Away, 6 credits
3. On the Boundaries of Fact and Fiction, 6 credits
4. The Venues of Poetry, 6 credits
5. Specialised Assignment in Present-Day Literature 6 credits

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises, discussion seminars and supervision. In module 4, Meeting Places of Poetry, attendance is required at a minimum of 75% of the module sessions.

Assessment

Module 1 is examined through a mandatory group presentation and two written assignments. For the grade Pass with Distinction on the module, a grade is required on at least two of the module's examinations and a grade of Pass on the third

The assessment of module 2 is based on 1 written invigilated exam

Module 3 is examined through a compulsory group presentation, and a written assignment with oral follow-up. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the module, that grade is required on at least two of the module's examinations as well as a grade of Pass on the third.

Module 4 is examined through three examination seminars and a written assignment. For the grade of Pass with distinction on the module, that grade is required on the written assignment as well as the of grade Pass on the three examining seminars are required.

Assessment of Module 5 is based on a written take-home exam, a written assignment, an oral group presentation and a take-home examination

For retakes, the examiner may deviate from the regular form of assessment if this form cannot be implemented for a retake, provided that it is compatible with the learning outcomes for 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on at least 15 credits and a grade of Pass on the remaining

credits.

Entry requirements

General and courses corresponding to the following Swedish Upper Secondary School Programs: History 1b/1a1+1a2 and Social Studies 1b/1a1+1a2 or History A and Social Studies A

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- Module 2 overlaps with LIVA07, module 3 with LIVA08 and module 4 with LIVA09.
- 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.
- The module titles in Swedish:
 1. Samtidslitteratur – en introduktion
 2. Världslitteraturen där och här
 3. I gränslandet mellan fakta och fiktion
 4. Poesins mötesplatser
 5. Samtidslitterärt specialstudium