



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LIVA19, Comparative Literature: Literary Perspectives on Illness, Suffering and Death, 7.5 credits

*Litteraturvetenskap: Litterära perspektiv på sjukdom och död, 7,5
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 2020-09-08 to be valid from 2020-09-08, spring semester 2021.

General Information

Subject: Comparative Literature

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

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Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- account for some important examples in literary history of the treatment of illness, suffering and death
- account for differences between portrayals of illness in different genres and their characteristics
- account for the basic lines of approach in the fields of narrative medicine and medical humanities

- based on given terms of reference, account for literary portrayals of illness, suffering and death and how they relate to the time in which they were written

Competence and skills

- analyse and interpret the literary portrayals of illness based on literary and existential issues
- independently express themselves in writing about literary portrayals of illness, suffering and death

Judgement and approach

- assess and evaluate interpretations of literary portrayals of illness
- reflect on illness, suffering and death as a literary theme and as culturally and historically conditioned phenomena

Course content

The course covers literary portrayals of illness, suffering and death to provide literary and existential perspectives on these themes and on individual works. It provides students with basic knowledge of lines of approach in the handling of illness in literary history and of the research fields of narrative medicine and medical humanities. It provides students with skills in interpreting, understanding and discussing individual works, including literary as well as essayistic and analytical works. The course focuses on the potential of the theme of illness to process, on the one hand, existential issues and, on the other hand, issues relevant to individuals working in healthcare, and aims to create insight into the interdisciplinary possibilities in the meeting between these different environments.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and approximately 10 seminars. Attendance at 80% of the seminars is compulsory. Absence can be compensated for in writing in accordance with the lecturer's instructions.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on an oral presentation and a paper.

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, Pass, Pass with distinction.

For the grade of Pass, the student must have been awarded the grade of Pass on both of the assessed components. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must also have been awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on the written exam.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, 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 LIVA19, Comparative Literature: Literary Perspectives on
Illness, Suffering and Death

Applies from V21

2101 Literary Perspectives on Illness, Suffering and Death, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction