

LIVA32, Comparative Literature: Children's Literature - Level 2, 30 credits

Litteraturvetenskap: Barnlitteratur - fortsättningskurs, 30 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2024-06-07 (U 2024/450) and was last revised on 2025-09-08 (U 2025/635). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-09-09 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

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

Comparative Literature with
specialization in Children's Literature

Specialisation

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in
first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to give an account of the fundamental features of the aims, methods and theories of children's literature research and the young adult literature research,
- be able to give an account of the forms and functions of contemporary children's culture and children's literature,

Competence and skills

- based on a basic scientific approach to sources and literature, be able to carry out independent assignments where children's literature and youth literature texts are discussed, analysed and interpreted
- be able to give an account of the relationship between children's culture, children's literature and the young adult literature and basic literary theory and ideological questions,
- based on a basic scientific approach to sources and literature, be able to discuss, analyse and interpret children's literature and youth literature texts,
- be able to discuss and problematise different expressions of children's culture from ideological, aesthetic and societal perspectives,

Judgement and approach

- be able to relate the values of children's culture and children's literary studies to general societal and scholarly approaches,
- be able to assess and evaluate studies and methods in children's literature,
- be able to identify their own need for further knowledge and expertise.

Course content

In the course, the aims of children's literature research, methods and theories are studied. In the course, the opportunity to independently apply acquired theoretical-methodological knowledge in a written assignment is also given. In addition, a perspective-rich introduction is also given to the function of children's and youth literature in a wider children's culture context where film and theatre, for example, are important. The third module offers a research-related specialisation in a research question, a specific theme or important authorship.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Theories and Methods of Children's Literature, 7.5 credits
2. Contemporary Children's Culture, 7.5 credits
3. Specialized Study in Children's Literature, 7.5 credits
4. Specialized Written Assignment, 7.5 credits.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, teaching sessions, exercises, workshops, seminars and supervision. The students complete either a project or a written assignment, as well as a critical review seminar.

Assessment

The assessment is based on

Module 1: active participation in 3 seminars (3 credits) (grade U, G) and an invigilated exam (4.5 credits) (grade U, G, VG)

Module 2: oral presentation (4.5 credits) (grade U, G, VG) and written assignment (3 credits) (grade U, G, VG)

Module 3: written assignment #1 (1.5 credits) (grade U, G, VG) and written assignment #2 (6 credits) (grade U, G, VG)

Module 4: specialized written assignment/project and critical review (7,5 credits) (grade U, G, VG).

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

Active participation in seminars is awarded one of the grades Pass or Fail.

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, students must have been awarded at least this grade on all modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on at least 13,5 of the 27 credits of the course where the grade Pass with distinction is awarded and a grade of Pass on the remaining credits.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and LIVA31, Literature: Children's Literature Level 1 (30 credits), or the equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course replaces LIVA25 Children's Literature - advanced course.
- The number of credits allocated for course content that is shared in whole or in part with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see current registration and information material.
- Module names in Swedish:

1. Barn- och ungdomslitterära teorier och metoder
2. Den samtida barnkulturens scener och sammanhang
3. Barn-och ungdomslitterärt specialstudium
4. Uppsats/projektarbete