



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LIVR51, Literature-Culture-Media: Literary Theory and Method, 15 credits

Litteratur-kultur-medier: Litterär teori och metod, 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 2008-03-27 to be valid from 2008-03-27, autumn semester 2008.

General Information

The course is included in the Master of Arts programme in Literature – Culture – Media. It is also offered as a single course and can normally be included as part of a general degree at the undergraduate or graduate levels. With the approval of the relevant authenticating body, it can also be included in certain professional degrees.

Language of instruction: English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached between the teacher and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of studies

Literature-Culture-Media

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 student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to demonstrate broad and in-depth knowledge of the theories of modern literary studies
- be able to demonstrate insight into the contemporary debate on literary and cultural theory

Competence and skills

- be able to identify and take a position on basic theoretical and methodological issues within literary studies
- be able to discuss and criticise applications of theories and methods of literary studies
- be able to apply theories and methods of literary studies, both orally and in writing

Judgement and approach

- be able to assess the value of a theory or method of literary studies with regard to relevant social, cultural and ethical perspectives.

Course content

The course examines a number of theoretical approaches which have been dominant in both Swedish and international literary research in recent years. They are introduced in a concrete manner in connection to various issues that have been significant in the history of literature and literary studies: The formal and thematic representation of the human subject in literary texts, the structure and function of literary discourse and the relationship of a literary text to a socially, historically and culturally determined context.

Three aspects of literature are examined: Human characters in literature, language in literature and the representation of reality in literature. The first part examines theories regarding the formal and thematic manifestations of human subjects in a literary text. The second part examines theories regarding the structure and function of literary language and how it relates to other types of discourse. The third part examines theories concerning the way in which literary texts relate to contexts of a social, historical and cultural nature. In order for students to become methodologically aware the course focuses on theoretical texts with analytical or practical applications. The students will also be given the opportunity to apply literary theory on autonomously chosen texts.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars, workshops and individual tutoring. Obligatory seminars and workshops are included.

Assessment

Examinations take the form of oral and written assignments or tests.

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.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course requires a Bachelor's degree or the equivalent, including 90 higher education credits in the chosen specialisation in the programme, i.e. Comparative Literature, English, French, Spanish or Russian. In addition, proficiency in English is required.

Further information

1. 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 LIVR51, Literature-Culture-Media: Literary Theory and Method

Applies from H08

0801 Literary Theory and Method, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction