



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

MHIA11, Media History: Level 1, 30 credits

Mediehistoria: Grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-05-23 and was last revised on 2023-03-15 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2023/220). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2023-03-15 and is valid from the autumn semester 2023.

General information

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

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- provide a basic account of key perspectives in media history
- provide a basic account of the development of global media history from pre-historical time to the present
- reflect on how the media have been shaped throughout history and on the significance of these media for humanity

Competence and skills

- perform basic information searches and apply basic methods of source criticism
- formulate and delimit an object of study by producing an independent paper
- orally and in writing discuss and interrogate media history literature and source material in dialogue with different groups
- identify and compare different interpretations of media historical development

Judgement and approach

- assess different interpretations of media historical development critically and in relation to their philosophical points of departure
- apply knowledge of media history to issues of relevance to society and humanity in general
- apply a media historical perspective to their contemporary media environment

Course content

Four chronologically organised modules address the most important strands of development of media history and key perspectives on them. Communication through text, sound and image are discussed continuously in relation to technological, economic, cultural, political and social change. Basic concepts and perspectives of media history, such as the relationship between old and new media and intermediality, are introduced throughout the modules. The course adopts a broad definition of media and the idea that individual forms of media must be understood in relation to their historical surroundings.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. From stone tablets to bookprint, Media History before 1600, 7.5 credits
2. Newspapers among other Media, 1600-1850, 7.5 credits
3. The Rise of the Modern Media Society, 1850-1940, 7.5 credits
4. Old and New Media after 1940, 7.5 credits.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and exercises.

Participation in approximately 10 seminars, as well as the writing of 8-12 bloggposts, is compulsory.

Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

Assessment

The examination consists of:

Module 1: an on-campus examination.

Module 2: a written assignment and an oral exam.

Modules 3 and 4: a written take-home exam per module.

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 on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on all modules. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on at least three of the modules and a grade of Pass on the remaining module. To be awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on module two the student shall have the grade Pass with Distinction on both assessments.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Department of Communication and Media (KOM), Lund University.
2. The course replaces PRVA11 and MHIA01.
3. 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.
4. Modules 1, 2, 3 and 4 can also be taken as freestanding courses with the course codes MHIA13, MHIA14, MHIA15 and MHIA16.
5. A general exemption from the requirement of proficiency in Swedish is applied to international students.