



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

MHIA20, Media History: Level 2, 30 credits

Mediehistoria: Fortsättningskurs, 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 2016-09-14 and was last revised on 2019-06-11. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2019-06-11 and is valid from the spring semester 2020.

General information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish

Components in other Scandinavian languages and English may be included.

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Media History 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 be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- account for specialised knowledge of economic, cultural, social and technological perspectives of media history
- account for important lines of development within the history of the media with regard to their material and social aspects
- account for important lines of development in the history of the media with regard to the relation between power and the media

Competence and skills

- critically analyse relevant changes in media history and locate them historically
- present and discuss in speech and writing different research perspectives in media history based on concrete empirical examples
- use language as a tool for the analysis, specification and presentation of the results of an independent paper on a media history issue

Judgement and approach

- test the applicability and relevance of different theoretical perspectives on different types of empirical data and issues
- take a critical position on published research of relevance to media history in dialogue with others
- discuss and take a position on perspectives on the history of the media that relates to gender, class and racialisation

Course content

The course consists of three thematic modules and a paper.

The first module- Media and materiality (7.5 credits) - approaches the media and communication from material perspectives and an extended historical perspective, from prehistoric times to the digital media environment of today. The key topics addressed include how to analyse the media as artefacts, devices and machines, but also how material and spatial media forms relate to the use of them. The theoretical approaches highlighted include cultural technology, media use and media archaeology.

The second module- Power and Media Systems (7.5 credits) - deals with the power of the media with regard to everything from major societal institutions to people's everyday lives, using the concept of media systems, among others, to focus on media relations and dependencies. The module pursues a critical discussion of central concepts such as medialisation, media logic and media strategies in relation to different arenas such as popular culture and the political sphere. The discussion is based on the perspectives gender, class and racialisation, and historical and geographical comparisons.

The third module- Social Media in Historical Perspective (7.5 credits) - addresses the most important lines of development of media history with regard to social aspects and key perspectives on these. Particular emphasis is placed on Swedish circumstances and present-day social media are addressed from a historical perspective. Focus is placed on the different historical manifestations of participatory media forms and the changes in the concept of the audience.

The fourth and final module- Paper (7.5 credits) - consists of discussions of practical questions of methodology that lead to a supervised paper project.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, supervision, seminars and exercises. The assessed seminars of all modules (approximately four per module) are compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment of module 1, 2 and 3 is partly based on active participation in the compulsory components and partly on a take-home exam at the end of each module.

The assessment of module 4 is based on a paper that is presented at a seminar and on the critical review of a fellow student's paper.

The examiner may deviate from the regular form of examination if the student has been granted an alternative form of examination by the Disability Support Services, and if it complies with the learning outcomes of 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 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 modules including the paper, and at least a grade of Pass on the remaining module.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed and passed Media History: Level 1 (MHIA11) or the equivalent in another humanities/social sciences subject.

Further information

1. The course replaces MHIA12.
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.
3. Students who have successfully completed MHIA11 take precedence to other applicants.
4. The course is offered at the Department of Communication and Media (KOM), Lund University.
5. Modules 1, 2 and 3 can also be taken as freestanding courses with the course codes MHIA21, MHIA24 and MHIA05.
6. Module titles in Swedish:
 1. Medier och materialitet,
 2. Makt och mediasystem,
 3. Sociala medier i ett historiskt perspektiv,
 4. Uppsats.