



Faculty of Social Sciences

MKVN13, Media and Communication Studies: Media and Diversity, 15 credits

Medie- och kommunikationsvetenskap: Medier och mångfald, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Communication and Media on 2019-02-28. The syllabus comes into effect 2019-09-02 and is valid from the autumn semester 2019.

General information

The course can be taken as a freestanding course or included as an elective specialisation course in the Master's programme in Media and Communication Studies (120 credits).

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study

Media and Communication Studies

Specialisation

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the course, the student shall

- demonstrate an advanced understanding of key perspectives and theories of the relationship between media and diversity
- demonstrate specialised knowledge of representations of diversity in media and culture and the ways in which it is engaged with by audiences and publics.

Competence and skills

On completion of the course, the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to independently and critically formulate research questions relating to diversity and media
- demonstrate the ability to independently design research in order to explore the relationship between diversity and the media
- demonstrate the ability to present independent analyses of diversity and media in speech and writing

Judgement and approach

On completion of the course, the student shall

- demonstrate an advanced understanding towards diversity through a range of different perspectives
- develop an ethnographic approach for analysing the relationship between media and diversity

Course content

The aim of the course is also to offer a critical evaluation of different ways of conceptualising diversity in order to challenge prejudices, polarisations and injustices that are socially and politically ingrained in our globalized world. The course does so, first, by exploring and discussing how diversity has been conceptualised and theorised in social sciences. The course draws on theories and perspectives from media and communication studies, anthropology and sociology among others to call attention to the societal challenges that have been brought up by political, ecological, economic crises, conflicts and migration flows. The course, then, explores how diversity is represented in the media and investigates it by using media ethnography in order to offer a deeper understanding of the role of media in creating space for diversity.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, seminars, workshops and study visits. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in seminars, workshops and study visits. 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 assessment is based on an individual paper, workshops and seminars. Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. Please note that registration is required for the re-examinations. Within a year of the end of the course, two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered, but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

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: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D, the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C, the student must show good results. For the grade of B, the student must show very good results. For the grade of A, the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail, the student must show unacceptable results.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied on the course.

The individual paper is awarded with a grade within the range of A to F. Course components such as active seminar participation, workshops and study visits are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for such components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail, the student must show unacceptable results.

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, students must have passed at least 150 credits including a Bachelor's degree project in the social sciences, humanities or the equivalent.

Oral and written proficiency in English corresponding to a Pass in English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. The assessment of corresponding qualifications is made with reference to national guidelines. International students are exempted from the general entry requirement of proficiency in Swedish.