Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

POLA17, Polish Literature, Culture and Film: From the Middle Ages to Modernism, 15 credits

Polsk litteratur, kultur och film: Från medeltiden till modernismen, 15 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 2026-11-02 (U 2026/666). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-11-02 and is valid from the autumn semester 2027.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a general qualification for both first and second-cycle studies.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study	*Specialisation*
-	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

- account for the historical development of Polish literature from the Middle Ages to Modernism
- describe the expression of literature in popular culture, for example in film, television, popular music, and theatre

This is a translation of the syllabus which was established in Swedish.

Competence and skills

- analyse literary texts and film adaptations of these texts in relation to relevant historical and cultural contexts
- apply philosophical, literary and film studies perspectives to the analysis of literary texts and films
- present analyses of literature and film orally and in writing, using the theoretical perspectives presented in the course

Judgement and approach

- independently and critically evaluate different interpretations and ethical aspects of the narratives in literary works and films
- relate literature and film adaptations to current social and political problem areas

Course content

The course introduces Polish literature and culture from the Middle Ages to Modernism, with a chronological scope extending to 1939. It covers major literary periods and cultural transformations, with particular emphasis on the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and examines how literature, visual culture, film, and film adaptations shaped ideas of Polish identity and modernity.

Through close readings and analyses of selected literary texts, films, film adaptations, and other cultural forms, students explore the relationship between artistic expression and broader intellectual, social, philosophical, and political developments. Literary and cinematic works are studied in relation to major historical experiences and processes of cultural transformation, including the partitions of Poland, political instability, the role of religion, minorities, modernization, war, and social and political change.

The course consists of two modules:

Module 1: From the Middle Ages to Romanticism, 7.5 credits
Module 2: From The Nineteenth Century to 1939, 7.5 credits

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

The course is offered online and uses interactive information technology. Students are expected to participate in this way, and to have access to a computer with Internet connection, camera and microphone.

Assessment

Module 1 is assessed through a written assignment supplemented by oral discussion.
Module 2 is assessed through a written assignment supplemented by oral discussion.

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.

This is a translation of the syllabus
which was established in Swedish.

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 at least this grade on both modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, students must have been awarded this grade on both modules.

Entry requirements

General requirements

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course requires proficiency in English.
- 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 materials.
- Module names in Swedish:

1. Från medeltiden till romantiken, 7,5 hp
2. Från 1800-talet till 1939, 7,5 hp