



Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

RETN03, Rhetoric: Contemporary Rhetorical Theory, 7.5 credits

Retorik: Samtida retorisk teoribildning, 7,5 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 2013-02-20. The syllabus comes into effect 2013-02-20 and is valid from the autumn semester 2013.

General information

The course is a compulsory component of the MA programme in Language and Linguistics specialising in Rhetoric. It is also offered as a free-standing course and can be included as part of a first- or second-cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

If both the students and the lecturer agree, it may be taught in Swedish. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of study

Language and Linguistics with specialization in Rhetoric

Specialisation

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 account for the development of rhetorical theory from the Renaissance until the present
- be able to describe the different research areas of rhetoric and how they are related to each other
- be able to account for current trends in national and international research in rhetoric

- be able to account specifically for the development of rhetorical theory in Scandinavia

Competence and skills

- be able to critically compare different positions in rhetorical theory and their methodological implications
- be able to discuss and critically review different rhetorical theories in speech and writing

Judgement and approach

- be able to critically and independently approach rhetoric as a research discipline
- be able to formulate independent scholarly texts on rhetoric of relevance to the research community.

Course content

The course involves specialised study of rhetorical theory based on the knowledge acquired by students in their first-cycle studies. The focus is on study of contemporary sources on rhetorical theory and their methodological implications, e.g. Scandinavian PhD theses in the subject.

The course primarily deals with contemporary rhetorical theory. The starting point is the reawakened interest in rhetoric in the Renaissance, but the emphasis is on pioneering works from the last fifty years.

Course design

Teaching consists of compulsory seminars (approximately 5) addressing specific themes, such as theories of argumentation analysis and Scandinavian research or theses in the subject.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the students' active participation in four of the compulsory seminars and reading logs (critical and scholarly reflections and assessment of the required reading) and one further written assignment.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Students are awarded one of the following grades: Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course students must have passed the Bachelor's course RETK03 or the equivalent and English B from upper secondary school or the equivalent.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature and/or the Department of Communication and Media, Lund University.
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.