

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Media and Crime
Media and Crime

7.5 Higher Education
Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	MK7007
Valid from:	Autumn 2008
Date of approval:	2008-09-08
Department	Department of Media Studies
Subject	Communications Studies/Media and Communication Studies

Decision

This course plan has been approved by the board of directors of the Department for Journalism, Media & Communication (JMK) 2008-06-03.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MECR	Media and Crime	7.5

Course content

The course raises different theoretical and methodological perspectives in the field of media and crime. The perspective is interdisciplinary; media and communication studies as well as sociological and criminological research are raised. The course takes up the contents of criminal journalism, its constructions and dramaturgy, press ethics relating to the reporting of criminality, and crime journalism's meaning for the judicial system and the politics of crime. The purpose is to offer an overview of research on the relations between journalistic institutions and the social aspects of judicial processes.

Learning outcomes

Having completed the course the student has incorporated advanced theoretical knowledge of the field media and crime, and exercised the ability to critically and independently analyse and interpret journalistic crime narratives and how these relate to the contemporary criminal-political context.

Education

Tuition takes the form of thematic lectures and accompanying seminars.

Forms of examination

Forms of examination

- The course is examined through active participation in seminars and completion of seminar exercises.
- Grades are given according to a criterion referenced seven-point scale:

A = Excellent
B = Very Good
C = Good

D = Satisfactory
E = Adequate
Fx = Insufficient
F = Fail

c. The grading criteria for this course are to be distributed at the beginning of the course.

d. A grade of at least E on all modules is required in order to obtain a grade for the whole course. Absence from seminars is to be compensated by additional written exercises.

e. In order to obtain at least a grade of E, a student who has received an F or Fx has the right to an additional four tests provided the course is still offered. A student who has received a grade of E or higher may not take the test again in order to get a higher grade. A student who has received the grade of Fx or F twice on a given test and by the same examiner can, on application, be granted a new examiner, unless there are specific reasons against it. The application should be addressed to the board of the department.

Interim

Regulations for transition

When the course is no longer offered or its contents have been revised, the student has the right to be examined according to this course syllabus once per semester for a period of three semesters. However, the limitations given above in Forms of Examination remain valid. For information about transitional rules for courses in the older pre-Bologna system the student councillor or director of studies at JMK should be contacted.

Required reading

Allmän litteratur Bauman, Zygmunt (1998), *Globalization. The Human Consequences*, Cambridge: Polity.
Chermak, Steven M. (1995), *Victim in the News. Crime and the American News Media*, Oxford: Westview.
Christie, Nils (1994), *Crime Control as Industry. Towards GULAGS, Western Style*, London/New York: Routledge.
Cohen, Stanley (1972), *Folk Devils and Moral Panic*, London: MacGibbon and Kee.
Ericson, Richard V., Baranek P. & Chan B. L. (1989), *Negotiating Control*, Milton Keynes, England: Open University Press.
Ericson, Richard V (1995), (ed) *Media and Crime. A reader*, Dartmouth: Aldershot Hawkes, Yvonne (2004) *Media and Crime*, London: Sage Kidd-Hewitt, D. & Osborne, R. (ed.) *Crime and the Media*, London: Pluto Osborne, 1995.
Pollack, Ester (2002), *Juvenile crime and the Swedish media in an historical perspective. A series of contextualised, cross-sectional studies of the years 1955, 1975 and 1995. Media research in Progress: JMK Conference Contributions 2002. Stockholm Media Studies, vol. 1,2003, Stockholms universitet: JMK Spector, Malcolm & Kitsuse, John I. (1977:1987), *Constructing Social Problems*, Hawthorne, N. Y.: Aldine de Gruyter.
Surette, Ray (2006), *Media, Crime, and Criminal Justice. Images and Realities*, New York: Wadsworth.*