

Syllabus

for course at first level

The Detective story 1850-1950

Detektivromanen 1850-1950: Valda verk och problem, 7.5 GN

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

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| Course code: | LV9700 |
| Valid from: | Summer 2008 |
| Date of approval: | 2008-04-10 |
| Department | Department of Culture and Aesthetics |
| Subject | Comparative Literature |
| Specialisation: | G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements |

Decision

This course syllabus is established by the board of the Department of Literary Studies and History of Ideas 2008-04-02.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Swedish B/Swedish as Second Language B, and History A, or equivalent.

Course structure

| Examination code | Name | Higher Education Credits |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 9700 | The Detective story 1850-1950 | 7.5 |

Course content

The course accentuates above all the history of the English detective story written between 1850 and 1950. Works written by Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Dorothy Sayers and Raymond Chandler and others will be discussed as examples of the genres basic conditions and opportunities. Furthermore a short- story by Jorge Luis Borges will be read to high-light the impact of the detective story on other types of narratives.

Learning outcomes

After having completed the course the student has demonstrated ability to, orally and/or in writing, illustrate and comment on a text in regard to the specific qualities of the genre, that is the Anglo-Saxon detective story and thriller, written between 1850 and 1950.

Education

The form and extent of the education applied, could be adjusted to both the number of the attending students as well as the departments economical situation.

Forms of examination

- The examination will be orally or in written form.
- 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. In order to obtain at least a grade of E, a student who has received an F or Fx has the right to go through 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. In order to obtain at least a grade of E, a student who has received an F or Fx has the right to go through 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

When the course is no longer offered or its contents have been essentially revised, the student has the right to be examined according to this course syllabus once per semester for a three-semester period. However, the restrictions above under 21 d still hold. For information about transitional rules for courses in the older pre-Bologna system the student counsellor or director of studies at the Department of Literary Studies and History of Ideas should be contacted.

Limitations

This course cannot be accounted for at the same time as equivalent courses at other universities.

Required reading

Literature:

Poe, E.A. The Purloined Letter (1845). Available in many different anthologies as well as in various pocketbooks.

Doyle, A.C. A Study in Scarlet (1887 and later).

Ett Nick Carteräventyr (1908) (stencil).

Soupault, P. Nick Carter död (1926) (stencil).

Sayers, D. Gaudy Night (1935 and later).

Hammet, D. The Torch Car Case (1935) (stencil).

Chandler, R. The Big Sleep (1939 and later).

Paretsky, S. Dealer's Choice (1988) (stencil).

A chosen novel written by A. Christie.

A chosen novel written by G. Simenon or Glauser, F. Überkonstapel Studer (1936), translated into Swedish 2007.

Holmberg, Å. Ture Svencion privatdetektiv (1948).

A chosen novel written by S. Trenter.

Hemingway, E. The Killers (1927). Available in many different anthologies as well as in Hemingway-editions.

Borges, J. L. Döden och kompassen (1942) in Lundkvist, A. (ed.). Latinamerikansk berättarkonst (1964); also available in English Borges-editions.

Chandler, R. The Simple Art of Murder (1944) (stencil).

Sayers, D. The introduction to her anthology Tales of Detection (1936) (stencil).

Wilson, E. Who Cares Who Killed Roger Ackroyd? (1945) (stencil).

Secondary literature:

Symons, J. Bloody Murder. From the Detective Story to the Crime Novel: a History (1972 and later, available also in Swedish translation), about 250 pages.

Cawelti, J.G. Formula Literature. Adventure, Mystery, and Romance. Formula Stories as Art and Popular Culture (1976), pp. 106-191.

Hartman, G.H. "Literature High and Low. The Case of the Mystery Story" i Most, G.W. & Stowe, W.W. (ed.) The Poetics of Murder. Detective Fiction and Literary Theory (1983), pp. 211-219.

Irons, G. (ed.) Feminism in Women's Detective Fiction (1995), the introduction and pp. 1-28.

Hammond, J.R. An Edgar Allan Poe Companion [---] (1981), pp. 91-101.

Sjklowski, V. "Kriminalberättelsen hos Conan Doyle" i Hedman, D. (ed.) Brott, kärlek, äventyr. Texter om populärlitteratur (1985), pp. 193-208.

Boethius, U. När Nick Carter drevs på flykten (1989) pp. 67-73 and 100-116.

Durkin, M.B. Dorothy L. Sayers (1980) pp. 73-78.
Asplund, J. Angående Raymond Chandler (2004), pp. 24-32.

Furthermore will approximately 100 pages be read from texts witch deals with scientific and literary criticism within the field of the history of the Detective story and the Crime novel