

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Media and Communication Studies - Master's course
Medie- och kommunikationsvetenskap - masterkurs

30.0 Higher Education
Credits
30.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	MK7030
Valid from:	Spring 2015
Date of approval:	2014-10-08
Department	Department of Media Studies
Main field:	Communications Studies/Media and Communication Studies
Specialisation:	A2E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Decision

This syllabus was established by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2014-10-08.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree in Media and Communication Studies, including a thesis of 15 ECTS credits or equivalent. English B/6 or equivalent. Completed and passed at least 45 ECTS advanced level courses in Media and Communication Studies, of which 15 ECTS method courses. Completed and passed the courses: English for Academic Research, 7,5 ECTS, and Scientific Methods and Research Ethics, 7,5 ECTS. Admitted to the Master's Programme in Global Media Studies/Media and Communication Studie, 120 ECTS.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MUPP	Master's Thesis	30

Course content

The Master dissertation/thesis project consists of 30 credits, and should represent a scholarly project of theoretical and empirical character in preparation for doctoral studies. The Master dissertation is a scholarly investigation of a problem that is relevant for the academic field of Media and Communication Studies. It represents an independent theoretical and empirical research project, carried out under supervision. This should give a research competence related to Media and Communication Studies, and an insight into problem formulations and working practices in Media Studies. It is an exercise in the preparation of a research project from an original idea to a completed research paper in essay form.

Learning outcomes

Having completed the course the student has demonstrated the ability to

- critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess, and handle complex phenomena, research questions and situations within the main subject matter of the education programme; and to show significantly deepened knowledge of some areas of the education programme.
- from deepened knowledge of methods and deepened insight into contemporary research critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate research questions; and plan and, with appropriate methods, complete a thesis project within the given time frame.
- give an account of, orally and in written form, their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments that underpin them

-follow current research ethics norms.

Education

Tuition takes place primarily in the form of tutoring and mandatory seminars. For a details, see the course description.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined through a written scholarly paper/thesis project and formal defence of the thesis as well as opposition/critique of another student's thesis.

b.) Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Adequate
Fx= Inadequate
F = Fail

c.) Written grading criteria are announced when the course begins.

d.) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade E minimum on the written thesis, completed the own thesis defence, a critical review/opposition of another students thesis, as well as attending all mandatory classes.

e.) For each course occasion, at least two opportunities for examination must be offered during the same semester. At least one examination opportunity shall also be given during semesters or years when the course is not offered. Students with a passing grade (E or higher) may not retake the exam for a higher grade. Students who receive the grade Fx or F twice by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are particular reasons to deny students this right. Such requests should be made to the Department Board.

f.) The completion of a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade on the home assignment may be permitted if the student is close to meeting the criteria for a passing grade. The supplementary assignment should be submitted within two weeks of the examiner notifying the student of the need to complete a supplementary assignment. Adequate corrections are graded A-E.

Students have the right to a total of 6,5 hours of supervision, of which 1 hour individual supervision. Remaining supervision is given in smaller groups.

h. The following assessment criteria will be used:

- understanding of the assignment
- execution of the research
- consideration of current ethical norms
- knowledge of methods, theoretical background and previous research in the field
- interpretation and analysis of results
- independence in execution
- ability to hold the set time schedule for the work
- oral and written presentation of own work as well as oral presentation
- opposition and evaluation of other equivalent degree work at the seminar.

i. Change of supervisors may take place under special circumstances. A request for such a change, with stated reasons, must always be made with the Department Board. Change of examiner is only permitted after a student has failed. See above under e) where the rules for this are stated.

j. Students who fail to completed the course may apply for extension of supervision to the Department Board. However, the student is always entitled to have his/her thesis assessed at the next examination opportunity.

Interim

When the syllabus has been discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition period of three semesters.

Misc

Written assignments/thesis must be written and presented electronically. Cheating or plagiarism will be handled by the University Disciplinary Board after being reported by the Head of Department or Director of Studies.

Required reading

A literature list will be made available no later than one month before the course starts. www.ims.su.se