

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Media Studies: Keywords for the Present

Mediestudier: Aktuella perspektiv och forskningsfrågor

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	FV7317
Valid from:	Autumn 2014
Date of approval:	2014-03-12
Department	Department of Media Studies
Main field:	Cinema History and Theory/Cinema Studies
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was established and adopted by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2014-03-12.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

90 ECTS credits in Cinema Studies or Media and Communication Studies. English B/English 6 or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
FV73	Media Studies: Keywords for the Present	7.5

Course content

This course provides analytical tools for critically investigating contemporary media culture. By emphasizing "keywords", i.e. concepts, theories and methodological perspectives, the course provides an overview of key debates within contemporary media studies and is highly pertinent for students planning or already writing their MA-thesis. Focusing on both traditional media (e.g. TV, press, film, radio) and forms of digital culture the course offers critical perspectives on the transformations of media technologies, production and reception practices, aesthetic and representational strategies and the changing cultural and social meanings of media. Topics discussed include media convergence vs. media specificity, intermediality/transmedial narration, novel forms of media uses, changing screen cultures, notions of "trash" and media affects.

Learning outcomes

Course objectives:

After passing the course the student will have acquired:

1. an enhanced familiarity with the key concepts and critical debates within contemporary media studies
2. an ability to analyze the dominant features of contemporary media culture from theoretical and historical perspectives
3. an ability to critically evaluate and formulate research questions bearing on contemporary media culture

Education

Lectures and seminars are offered within budgetary constraints. The departmental board is responsible for the overall planning of the course and its mandatory components.

Forms of examination

- a.) The course is examined through individually written take-home assignments. For more detailed

information, please see the course description.

b.) Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale:

A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Poor
Fx = Inadequate
F = Unacceptable

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

d.) In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade E minimum on all mandatory assignments and attend at least 80% of classes. Exceptions to the attendance rule are made in case of illness or under other special circumstances. The student may then be required to submit a supplementary assignment.

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. Grades A-E are used for supplementary assignments.

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.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree with other courses, completed in Sweden or elsewhere, with identical or partially overlapping content. This course is identical with FV7010 and cannot be included in the same degree.

Misc

The course code for this course was previously FV7010.

Required reading

Literature for the course is available at www.ims.su.se no later than one month ahead of the first class. Screenings/viewing of film, television and other media is mandatory and will be assessed on par with the course literature.