

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Cinema Studies - Master's Degree Thesis**  
**Filmvetenskap - magisterkurs**

**15.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**15.0 ECTS credits**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Course code:</b>      | FV7100  |
| <b>Valid from:</b>       | Spring 2016   |
| <b>Date of approval:</b> | 2015-12-03  |
| <b>Department</b>        | Department of Media Studies   |
| <b>Main field:</b>       | Cinema History and Theory/Cinema Studies  |
| <b>Specialisation:</b>   | A1E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits) |

## Decision

This syllabus was established by the Faculty Board of Humanities 2015-11-18 and adopted by the Board of the Department of Media Studies 2015-12-02.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admitted to Master's Programme in Cinema Studies and 30hp completed within this Programme of which 15hp in Cinema Studies.

## Course structure

| Examination code | Name                   | Higher Education Credits |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| FV71             | Master's Degree Thesis | 15                       |

## Course content

The student writes a 15 ECTS thesis on a topic to be approved by the assigned supervisor. The thesis is a substantial piece of original research or criticism and should demonstrate the student's ability to collect, arrange, interpret, and report pertinent material. The thesis is defended in a seminar. The thesis work is an exercise in developing a defined research project from an original idea, through the choice of methodology to a completed research report. Students are, through this process, being prepared for Ph.D. studies.

## Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students should demonstrate an ability to:

1. critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analysis, evaluate and handle complex materials, frame investigations and problematise issues within the domain of film studies, and demonstrate advanced knowledge within aspects of the discipline;
2. use advanced methods and with insight into critical research practice, identify and formulate questions independently, and plan adequate methods to achieve self-critical investigations within a given time-frame;
3. in both national and international contexts, be able to justify and discuss your argument and conclusions in spoken and written forms;
4. observe the ethics and conventions of research methodologies.

## Education

Instruction is given in the form of seminars and individual or group supervision. All course elements are

mandatory. The language of instruction is English. For more detailed information, please see the course description.

### **Forms of examination**

a.) The course is examined through the completion of an individually written degree dissertation (thesis), thesis defence, and the critical review of another student's thesis. For more detailed information, please see the course description.

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 = Unacceptable

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 thesis, and have successfully defended one's own, critically examined another student's thesis and fulfilled the 80% attendance requirement. 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.) Revisions in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade may be permitted if the student is close to meeting the criteria for a passing grade. These revisions should be submitted within two weeks of notification from the examiner. Adequate revisions are graded A-E. Adequate corrections of flaws related to understanding – minor misunderstandings, minor inaccuracies or too limited argumentation – can only receive grades D or E.

g.) Students are entitled to a total of 8 hours of supervision. Supervision hours may be individual or within a smaller group.

h.) In assessing the degree project, the following assessment bases will be used:

- Implementation of the survey / theoretical task and critical review of relevant theory and the research material.
- Independence in formulating research questions, argumentation, and analysis
- Ability to stay within the established timeframe
- The scientific/academic accuracy/precision of the text
- Thesis defence
- Critical review of another student's thesis

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

j.) Students who fail to complete the thesis project on time are not entitled to additional supervision hours, but can apply for extra supervision hours with the Department Board. Students are however, always entitled to have his / her degree project 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.

**Limitations**

This course may not be included in a degree with other courses, completed in Sweden or elsewhere, with identical or partially overlapping content.

**Required reading**

Literature is selected in dialogue with the individual supervisor.