



# Syllabus

for course at first level

**Korean Popular Culture in a Global Context**  
**Koreansk populärkultur i en global kontext**

**7.5 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	JKB925
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2022
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2021-09-08
<b>Department</b>	Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies
<b>Main field:</b>	Asia:s Languages and Cultures
<b>Specialisation:</b>	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

## Decision

This syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies 2021-09-08.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school course English B, or equivalent.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
DK01	Korean Popular Culture in a Global Context	7.5

## Course content

The course gives an overview of the history of South Korean popular music (or K-pop as the genre is often called) and how this style of music has developed and formed during the last two decades. Furthermore, those factors are investigated, which have contributed to the global rise of South Korean popular culture, which took off at the end of the 1990s and which today has spread to large parts of the world. This phenomenon, also called hallyu, the Korean wave, has been able to thrive and expand to a large extent due to the active role and investment in soft power by the South Korean state, where the export of culture and entertainment in the form of music, tv-series and film have important parts in nation branding. A further aspect that will be touched upon is how the South Korean government has used soft power and the global popularity of Korean popular culture to position itself geopolitically and which challenges, as well as opportunities, this might entail in the relationship with neighbouring states like China and Japan.

## Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students are expected to be able to:

- place the Korean wave, with an emphasis on popular music, in a historical, socio-cultural and global context,
- demonstrate basic knowledge about theories and issues regarding research about the Korean wave,
- reflect on and discuss the role of South Korea as an exporter of popular culture and which possibilities as well as challenges this investment in soft power entails in the relationship to its Asiatic neighbours.

## Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars.

Instruction is given in Swedish.

For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available at least one month before the course starts.

### **Forms of examination**

a. The course is examined with a written assignment in the form of a home examination. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be made available at least one month before the course starts.

If a student has a certificate with recommendations for special pedagogical support due to a long-term disability, the examiner can adapt the examination or allow the student an alternative examination.

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 = Fail, some additional work required and F = Fail, much more work required.

c. Students will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts. The communicated criteria are binding.

d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on the written exam and meet the attendance requirements of 80%.

Under special circumstances, the examiner may, after consulting with the coordinating teacher, grant the student an exemption from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory teaching. The student can then be assigned a compensatory assignment.

e. At least three examination opportunities should be offered within a one-year period. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during the academic year the course is not offered.

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 special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the person responsible for the course.

Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.

f. This course does not include any opportunities to complete a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade.

### **Interim**

When the syllabus is 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 together with a course, taken in Sweden or elsewhere, of identical or partially similar content.

### **Required reading**

For up-to-date information about required reading please refer

to the course website at <https://www.su.se/institutionen-for-asien-och-mellanosternstudier/>

The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.