



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL SCIENCES

KVL181 Scandinavian Studies: Cultural and Aesthetic Perspectives, 30 credits

Scandinavian Studies: Cultural and Aesthetic Perspectives, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by The Faculty of Arts on 2012-05-23 and was last revised on 2019-06-18 by Department of Cultural Sciences to be valid from 2019-09-01, autumn semester of 2019.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Cultural Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course is a single subject course within the Faculty of Arts.

Main field of studies

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Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

After completing the course the students will be able to

1. Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a general understanding of Scandinavian media, from stylistic, thematic, ideological, industrial and cultural perspectives,
- identify different music genres found in Scandinavia and, on a basic level, give an account of their historical background and function in society,

- demonstrate a general understanding of Scandinavian art history from cultural, theoretical and historical perspectives,
- describe and discuss central aspects of Swedish theatre and performing arts in relation to society and culture.

2. Skills and abilities

- analyse historical and present conditions for production and reception of contemporary Scandinavian media in different markets, nations, and cultures,
- describe some characteristics of the Scandinavian and especially Swedish music and musical life, and reflect on the impact of music on the daily lives of people,
- grasp and identify specific characteristics of Scandinavian art history,
- examine and analyze examples from performing arts and reflect upon their impact in a cultural, political and social context.

3. Judgment and approach

- demonstrate a reflective approach to intercultural issues.

Course content

The course addresses international students with an interest in the Swedish and Scandinavian society from cultural and aesthetic perspectives. The course consists of four (4) course units:

Unit 1: Scandinavian Film and Media, 7.5 higher education credits

The course explores Scandinavian media with a specific emphasis on film. In focus are the ways in which the media represent and relate to social, political, and aesthetical issues, and how the media transgress and influence cultures, nations and markets.

Unit 2: Music and Modernity, 7.5 higher education credits

This course explores issues of music and national identity in historic and modern contexts, using as examples various music arenas mainly in Sweden. Field work and the study of texts in music sociology will give students insights into how music works in society to express and define individual and collective realities.

Unit 3: Scandinavian Design, 7, 5 hec

This course offers an introduction to Scandinavian design and art. The survey includes cultural, theoretical and historical aspects related to Scandinavia with an emphasis on 20th century and contemporary design. The aim of the course is to provide a nuanced picture of Scandinavian design, and the relationship between form, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Unit 4: Performance, Power, and Politics in a Scandinavian Context, 7.5 higher education credits

The course aims at investigating theatre, opera and dance as a site for an ongoing power struggle between socio-economic forces and aesthetic values. The course will provide an orientation to Scandinavian and specifically Swedish theatre and the performing arts from the late eighteenth century until today. It concentrates on a variety of aspects such as language, acting/performing, power, and cultural politics. Analytical methods in performance analysis will be applied to different types of performances.

Form of teaching

During each course unit the student is assessed through a written home essay and active participation in seminars announced as obligatory. In connection with each course unit a re-take of the examination is offered.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

In case the course has been discontinued or major changes have been made the student is guaranteed at least three occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a time of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

A student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiner. A written application must be submitted to the department.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade Pass with Distinction (VG) on the course, this grade is required on 50% of the course units.

Course evaluation

The director of studies will see to it that the results of the evaluation will systematically and continuously be taken into consideration and function as a guide for the development of the course.

Additional information

The course can not be included in, or be a part of, a degree together with the course KVL800.