VFSPOL   Introduction to Contemporary Arts and Politics, 15 credits
Introduktion till samtidskonst och politik, 15 högskolepoäng
First Cycle

Confirmation
This course syllabus was confirmed by Valand Academy on 2015-12-09 to be valid from 2015-12-09, spring semester of 2016.

Field of education: Fine Arts 100%
Department: Valand Academy

Position in the educational system
Independent course

Main field of studies   Specialization
- G1N, First Cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements
General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes
On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
• Describe central themes in the contemporary cultural debate and contemporary art world
• Describe different political approaches to interpret the importance of contemporary work of art
Competence and skills
- Compare different political perspectives on contemporary art on the basis of specific text sources and specific works of art
- Use visual material to communicate an interpretation and give critical response to one or more works of art and political debates

Judgement and approach
- Evaluate distinctive features of specific works of art by means of critical argumentation
- Identify agreement and disagreement in a specific discussion.

Course content
The course is an introductory course that treats how contemporary art in visual arts photography, film, literature, interact with current political inquiries. The material is brought from contemporary cultural works and examples from current political debates. By studying concrete examples, the course gives the student an introduction to the theme of the course and a possibility to develop their own critical assessments.

Form of teaching
The course consists of lectures, seminars, workshops and own artistic work in the form of a visual essay consisting of image, text or mobile images. Study is conducted both independently and in groups. Groups of students will critically discuss and reflect on examples presented and student works.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment
This course is assessed through a written assignment, an oral presentation and a visual presentation.
In case of absence, examination takes place through presentation of written reflections on example from the lectures and literature of the course, a performative/theoretical work and a written report that corresponds to the oral examination parts.
If a student, who has failed the same examined course component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary. (Chapter 6, Section 22, Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the
ordinary examination) over a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

**Grades**
The grading scale comprises: Pass (G) and Fail (U).

**Course evaluation**
The course will be assessed orally at its conclusion as well as in writing and anonymously after its completion. The results of the evaluation will form the basis for the design of future courses and will be communicated to students who took the course via the University of Gothenburg's learning management system (GUL) and also orally to students beginning the next version of this course.

**Additional information**
Any costs for the student's own projects will be paid by the student.