



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

EN2111 Literary and Linguistic Perspectives on Speculative fiction, 7.5 credits

Litterära och språkliga perspektiv på spekulativ fiktion, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by The Faculty of Arts on 2012-06-08 and was last revised on 2016-08-16 by Department of Languages and Literatures to be valid from 2016-08-29, autumn semester of 2016.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Languages and Literatures

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course at second cycle level and may be included in a Master's degree (either 60 or 120 credits).

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) German Contemporary Literature and Culture: Reception, Transfer and Context (H2TLK)

Main field of studies

English

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

The requirement for admission to the course is a Bachelor's degree.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for different genres in speculative fiction and their historical development,
- critically reflect on speculative fiction as a tool for social criticism, not least in different political, technical and scientific issues at specific times in history,

- analyse and discuss different critical perspectives of the various genres of speculative fiction,

- account and critically reflect on 'world building' as a concept in speculative fiction,

Competence and skills

- compare thematic questions and technologies that are used in central works and subgenres,

- analyse languages and linguistic representations on the basis of their function,

- discuss and analyse the conventions in the different genres of speculative fiction and their effect on critical analysis,

Judgement and approach

- relate the narratives in speculative fiction to language, culture and identity,

- in an advanced way argue for his/her own position as well as relate it to other perspectives of the contents of course.

Course content

The course treats literary and linguistic perspectives of speculative fiction. Speculative fiction is an umbrella term that includes a number of genres that all intrinsically differ from the world such as we perceive it, e.g. as science fiction, fantasy, apocalyptic fiction, Gothic fiction, horror literature, utopian and dystopian fiction. The course includes a broad spectrum of subjects and themes, for example genre studies, the origin and the development of speculative fiction as literary dialogue, social criticism, the effect of the

conventions of the genre in literary analysis, the structure and importance of constructed "extra-terrestrial" and other made-up languages, etc

Form of teaching

The teaching is given in the form of lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The examination of all aims is done continuously through the submission of written assignments based on the contents of the seminars and the reading list. Oral skills are assessed continuously.

A student who has failed a course item is eligible for a retake exam/assignment. A student who has completed an exam/assignment with a passing grade is not eligible for a retake for the purpose of receiving a higher grade. Nor may a student withdraw a test/assignment once it has been submitted for the purpose of avoiding receiving a grade for the work. A student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiner, if it is possible. A written request must then be submitted to the Department. If the course has been discontinued or substantially revised, a student should be guaranteed to sit the examination on at least three occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a period of at least one year based on the previous course structure.

Grades

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

Course evaluation

The students are given the opportunity to make a written evaluation of the course. The results of the evaluation are published digitally.

Additional information

In order for the course to be included in a Master's degree (either 60 or 120 credits) where English is the main field of study, there is an additional requirement of 90 hecs of English from undergraduate level, 15 hecs of which must be constituted by an individual project.

Equality aspects should be taken into consideration in content, literature, teaching and evaluation. In addition, where relevant, the course should make students aware of and problematise ecological, economic, cultural and socially sustainable development.