



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

EZ1C07 English: Specialized Studies in Linguistics: Pop Culture and the English Language, 7.5 credits

Engelska: Språklig specialkurs. Populärkultur och det engelska språket, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2017-11-02 to be valid from 2018-01-15, spring semester of 2018.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Languages and Literatures

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

English

Specialization

G2F, First Cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

The requirement for admission to the course is completed studies in English, Introductory course, 30 credits (1-30 credits) and at least 22.5 credits in English, Advanced course, 30 credits (31-60 credits), or the equivalent thereof.

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for how the language in popular culture can create and communicate identity and group affiliation;
- account for how linguistic representations in popular culture create and promote different ways to regard social variables such as ethnicity, sex, social group, etc;
- display knowledge of the interplay between the language in popular culture and the language in everyday situations i.e. how the language in popular culture partly is shaped by and partly shapes general communication between people;
- describe selected non-standard variants that occur in English-speaking popular culture and explain how and why they differ from so-called 'Standard English';

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to independently identify and formulate relevant questions regarding the interplay between popular culture and the English language;
- demonstrate the ability to use popular cultural media (e.g. film, music, TV, the Internet, etc) for linguistic studies of the English language;
- in a clear and structured way and in good English describe the acquired knowledge in speech and writing;

Judgement and approach

- critically analyse the language in mass media with special focus on its power to use the language in order to convince;

- in a basic way argue for his/her own positions as well as relate these to other perspectives on the contents of the course.

Course content

In the course, an eclectic method is used for the linguistic analysis of popular culture in English. The students are given a short run-through of appropriate methods in sociolinguistics, conversational analysis, discourse analysis and semiotics, which are illustrated and studied by means of a selection of material such as lyrics, newspaper language, dialogues in TV programmes and films, advertising language, electronic communication, etc

Form of teaching

The teaching is done in the form of seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Examination of all the goals of the course is done continuously through submission of written assignments based on the contents of the teaching sessions and course literature, except the oral part, which is assessed specifically through active participation.

Students who have failed any part of the course are given the possibility of a new test. In connection with written assignments, supplementary assignments may be offered in order for the student to achieve a Pass grade. Such a supplementary assignment should be done within the stipulated time (normally five working days after the result has been posted). Otherwise a Fail grade will be reported.

A student who has passed a subtest may not do a new test for a higher grade. Nor do students have the right to withdraw a submitted test and in such a way avoid being graded.

If a student who has failed the same examined course component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application should be sent to the department responsible for the course and be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary. (Chapter 6, Section 22, Higher Education Ordinance).

In case the course is no longer offered or goes through major changes, examination is available for a maximum number of three attempts (including the regular examination) for a period of one year on the basis of the previous set-up of the course.

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

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