



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

FKAKPO Art and Politics - On Friendship and the Political Imaginary, 15 credits

Konst och politik - om vänskap och det politiskt imaginära, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Valand Academy on 2020-11-03 and was last revised on 2023-01-30 by HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design to be valid from 2023-08-28, autumn semester of 2023.

Field of education: Fine Arts 100%

Department: HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

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Specialization

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

Entry requirements

Bachelor's Degree of at least 180 credits or the equivalent knowledge. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify relevant methods for an independent artistic, curatorial or scientifically oriented study that concerns the sociopolitical role of art
- give a detailed account of different theoretical methods that can be used to interpret and analyse the meaning of political collectivities and the question of how subjectivity is treated in contemporary art and art theory
- identify and describe, in writing and speech, how friendship, political collectivities and subjectivity are activated within specific contemporary artistic examples

Competence and skills

- independently formulate and plan a project proposal for an artistic, curatorial or scientifically oriented study that concerns the concept of friendship and the sociopolitical role of art
- account for and problematise the issue of friendship, collectivities and subjectivity in contemporary art and cultural production in an insightful and critical reflection that can be translated into the conditions of a practical project
- make critical assessments intended for one's own, existing or imagined, professional practice linked to the concepts of friendship, political collectivity and subjectivity

Judgement and approach

- evaluate functions and features in specific contemporary works of art with reference to friendship, political collectivities and subjectivity
- evaluate how different project proposals take advantage of perspectives on ethics and social sustainability.

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content

The course aims to provide knowledge and skills in formulating project ideas for art, culture or society based on contemporary art and current issues of cultural policy and social solidarity.

The course can be a continuing education resource for artists, curators and people active in community planning and social development who want to develop or deepen conceptual and creative perspectives for their own professional practice.

The course covers, on the basis of concrete examples, how contemporary art, art theory and curatorial knowledge relates to, and interact with, current political issues of friendship, collectivities and subjectivity.

Central concepts and themes in the course are:

- The concepts of "friend" and "friendship" as political and artistic figures
- The political imaginary
- The social turn in art
- Political collectivities and the issue of subjectivity
- Critical practice
- The concept of "whiteness" as artistic and political construction. (Here, whiteness should not be understood as critical racial studies or critique of norms, but as a matter of aesthetic, political, legal and social ontology. In this way, it is an aspect of friendship politics).

The reading list consists of contemporary artistic and cultural works and case studies from current political debates. Concepts at the intersection of art and other disciplines such as philosophy, political theory and social theory (concepts that have been incorporated into contemporary art theory and contemporary art) are studied in detail.

By studying concrete examples, the student gets an introduction to the course's concepts and themes and the opportunity to develop their ability to make critical assessments intended for their own, existing or imagined, professional practice.

Form of teaching

The course is carried out as distance education via University of Gothenburg's learning management system.

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars, workshops and individual creative work. The studies are carried out individually and in groups. Students will critically discuss and reflect on presented examples and student work.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The intended learning outcomes are assessed through a written assignment in the form of a project proposal, an oral presentation and a visual presentation consisting of image, text or mobile images.

Submission of complements to a carried out examination may be allowed. The possibility of completion is assessed individually by the examiner. Completion takes place through the tasks determined by the examiner and within the specified time frame

If a student, who has been failed twice on the same course component being examined, 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).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg

regarding study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may decide, in the case where this is compatible with the learning outcomes for the course, and provided no unreasonable resources are required, to give the student an adjusted examination or an alternative form of examination.

In the case where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student should normally be guaranteed access to at least three examination sessions (including the regular examination session) during a period of at least one year, but at the most two years after the course has been discontinued/changed.

Grades

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

Course evaluation

Students are given the opportunity to evaluate the course anonymously at the end of the course. The result and any changes to the structure of the course should be communicated both to the students who carried out the evaluation and to the students who are to start the course.

Additional information

- The course requires access to a computer with web camera, microphone and internet connection.
- Any costs for the student's own projects are paid for by the student.