



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Cultural Sciences

1AE015 Från Heinrich Schliemann till Indiana Jones: arkeologi som populärkulturellt fenomen, 7,5 högskolepoäng

From Heinrich Schliemann to Indiana Jones: Archaeology as a Phenomenon of Popular Culture, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Archaeology

Subject Group

Archaeology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Organisational Committee 2009-11-18

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2010

Prerequisites

NO VALUE DEFINED

Expected learning outcomes

After completion of this course the student will be able to:

- account for the character and meaning of representations of archaeology in contemporary popular culture
- evaluate critically and independently specific examples of archaeology in popular culture
- present their own assessments concerning certain examples of archeology within popular culture to non-specialists.

Content

This course explores archaeology's character and meaning in contemporary popular culture. The course starts with a historical perspective discussing the popular meanings of archaeology and the phenomenon of celebrity archaeologists since the 19th century. Following on from this, the significance of archaeology in contemporary film, the media, fiction and non-fiction literature, art and advertising are presented and discussed through case-studies and examples. The course also assesses to what extent the - often stereotypical - portrayals of archaeology in popular culture are either harmful or beneficial to society on the one hand and archaeology's role in society on the other hand.

Type of Instruction

This course is taught entirely via distance learning methods. Teaching will be through lectures and group discussions over the internet.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

For the grade "Pass" the intended learning outcomes must be achieved.

Examination is by send-in tasks and tutor-marked assignments.

Grades are awarded according to the international ECTS scale.

Re-sits are offered within six weeks (during the semester). The number of re-sits in each course is limited to four (Higher Education Ordinance Ch. 6 Par. 21).

Course Evaluation

Course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course. The evaluation is compiled, reviewed with the students and archived according to departmental protocol.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Obligatory literature

Brittain, Marcus & Clack, Timothy (eds.) (2007). *Archaeology and the Media*. Walnut Creek: Left Coast Press. 280 pp.

Hall, Mark (2004). "Romancing the stones: archaeology in popular cinema" *European Journal of Archaeology* 7. 159-76. ELIN, 18 pp.

Holtorf, Cornelius (2007). *Archaeology is a brand! The meaning of archaeology in contemporary popular culture*. Oxford: Archaeopress. 150 pp.

McGeough, Kevin (2006). Heroes, Mummies and Treasure: Near Eastern Archaeology in the Movies. *Near Eastern Archaeology* 69 (3-4), 174-185. 11 pp.

Russell, Miles Ed (2002). *Digging Holes in Popular Culture. Archaeology and Science Fiction*. Oxford: Oxbow. Selected parts, ca 60 pp.

Zorpidu, Sultana (2004). "The Public Image of the Female Archaeologist. The Case of Lara Croft". In: H. Bolin (ed) *The Interplay of Past and Present*. S. 101-107. Huddinge: Södertörns högskola. 8 pp.

Obligatory primary sources

Christie, Agatha (1936). *Murder in Mesopotamia*. Any edition.

Emmerich, Roland, dir. (1994) *Stargate*.

Hillermann, Tony (1989). *A Thief of Time*. Any edition.

McDevitt, Jack (2001). *Deepsix*. Any edition.

Spielberg, Steven, dir. (1989). *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. Lucasfilm.

Time Team Webpages (current). www.channel4.com/history/microsites/T/timeteam

West, Simon, dir. (2001). *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*. Paramount Pictures.