



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

1BO410 Bibliotek, information, samhälle I: biblioteks och informationssektorn, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Libraries, information, society I: the library and information sector, 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Library and Information Science

### **Subject Group**

Library and Information Science

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2017-01-25

Revised 2020-03-06 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised content, examination and literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2020

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements.

## Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- account for libraries' social mission on the basis of current Swedish law and international policies,
- account for the most common library types' activities in terms of user relations, organisation of collections and development of knowledge in society,
- account for the main features of the history of library development,
- account for the emergence of the modern librarian profession, its central values and its main tasks,
- discuss libraries' roles in relation to current developments within, among others, the culture and education sectors.

## Content

The course gives an introduction to the societal role and historical development of libraries. Current Swedish law concerning libraries as well as international guidelines for libraries serve as the starting point for the course. Different library types, such as national libraries, university libraries and libraries at other institutions of higher education, public libraries, school libraries, hospital libraries and government libraries, are discussed in terms of their respective roles in society and their specific user relations. The historical development of libraries is discussed and libraries' relation to societal change in terms of culture, economics and ideology is focused from a power theoretical perspective. Specific focus lies on the librarian profession and its historical and current development. The role of today's librarian is discussed in relation to current organisational development, increasing digital resources and tools, as well as political and economical changes of norms. The theoretical and historical components of the course are supplemented with a work placement.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures and text-based seminars. The course also includes a compulsory work placement equivalent to 1.5 credits.

Teaching is normally delivered in Swedish, but parts of the teaching may be delivered in English.

## Examination

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

The course is examined through an individual assignment (5 credits) and oral seminar assignments (2.5 credits). Supplementary examination of the work placement is carried out in consultation with the teacher responsible for the course and the contact person at the workplace.

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified in writing when the course starts. For students who do not pass their first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examinations at the first and second levels at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

## Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Francke, H. (the latest edition) *Publicera!: svenska forskningsbiblioteks arbete med publiceringsfrågor*. Stockholm: Svensk Biblioteksförning. (20 p. in selection).

*För det demokratiska samhällets utveckling: bibliotekslagen enligt lagstiftaren* (the latest edition) Stockholm: Svensk Biblioteksförning. 45 p.

Hansson, J. (the latest edition) *Folkets bibliotek: texter i urval 1994–2012*. Lund: BTJ Förlag. (80 p. in selection)

Hansson, J. & Wisselgren, P. (eds.) (the latest edition). *Bibliotekarier i teori och praktik – utbildningsperspektiv på en unik profession*. Lund: BTJ förlag. 100 p in selection.

Lankes, R.D. (the latest edition) *The New Librarianship Field Guide*. Cambridge, MT: MIT Press. (150 p. in selection)

Lerner, F. (the latest edition) *The story of libraries: from the invention of writing to the computer age*. (150 p. in selection)

Limberg, L. & Hampson Lundh, A. (the latest edition) *Skolbibliotekets roller i förändrade landskap: ens forskningsantologi*. Lund: BTJ Förlag. (70 p. in selection)

Pilerot, O. (the latest edition). *Arbete i regional biblioteksverksamhet*. Uppsala:Region Uppsala. (51 s.)

*Profession, utbildning, forskning: biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap för en stärkt bibliotekarieprofession* (2018). Eds. Joacim Hansson, Åse Hedemark, Ulrika Kjellman, Jenny Lindberg, Jan Nolin, Olof Sundin & Per Wisselgren. Stockholm: Kungliga Biblioteket. ISBN 978-91-7000-362-2. Pp. 23-34 (11 p.).

Thomas, Barbro (the latest edition) *Bibliotekslagstiftning: perspektiv och exempel*. Stockholm. Svensk Biblioteks förening. (100 p. in selection).

Literature chosen in consultation with the teacher, ca 200 pages.