



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

1BV120 Att söka information, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Information Seeking, 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 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2020-12-14

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements for university studies.

## Objectives

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

- analyse the role of information searching in today's society,
- describe different perspectives on information retrieval in library and information science,
- account for different search systems and apply different methods for search and source criticism,
- discuss how media and information literacy constitute tools for learning, democratic participation and critical questioning.

## Content

This course is about how people search for, handle, and evaluate information in different contexts, as well as the different meanings of information searching in today's society. It also introduces the library and information science research field of information retrieval. Different kinds of search system, such as databases, catalogues and search engines, are problematised and compared from different perspectives of library and information science, in theory as well as in practice. These search systems, which are central to the library sector as well as to society in general, are also discussed from critical perspectives on information searching. The course furthermore covers issues to do with media and information literacy from different perspectives, problematising their significance for different users, and analysing their role in people's active participation in a democratic society.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures and seminars using digital aids. Lectures and assignments will be available on the course learning platform. Parts of the course may be given in English or in Scandinavian languages other than Swedish.

## Examination

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

The course is examined through a group assignment of 3 credits and an individual assignment of 4.5 credits.

Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. 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 the grade of Pass with Distinction for the whole course, the student must have received this grade for at least 4.5 credits.

If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

## 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

Bawden, David & Robinson, Lyn (the latest edition). *Introduction to information science*. London: Facet Publishing. (90 p. in selection)

Case, Donald O. & Given, Lisa. M. (the latest edition). *Looking for information: a survey of research on information seeking, needs, and behavior*. Bingley: Emerald. (400 p. in selection)

Chowdhury, Gobinda G. (the latest edition). *Introduction to Modern Information Retrieval*. London: Facet Publishing. (528 p.)

Haider, Jutta & Sundin, Olof (the latest edition). *Invisible search and online search engines: the ubiquity of search in everyday life*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, (151 p.)

Limberg, Louise, Sundin, Olof & Talja, Sanna (the latest edition). Three Theoretical Perspectives on Information Literacy. *Human It*, 11(2), p. 93-130, (37 p.)

Rivano Eckerdal, Johanna & Sundin, Olof (eds.) (the latest edition). *Medie och informationskunnighet i en biblioteks och informationsvetenskaplig belysning*. Stockholm: Svensk biblioteksörening. (100 p.)

Thurén, Torsten & Werner, Jack (the latest edition). *Källkritik*. Stockholm: Liber. (273 p.)