



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design

School of Design

1DI138 Kulturstudier II, 3 högskolepoäng

1DI138 Cultural Studies II, 3 credits

Main field of study

Design

Subject Group

Design

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1F

Date of Ratification

Approved 2009-06-24

Revised 2011-06-14 by School of Design.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2011

Prerequisites

1DI135 Cultural Studies I, 3 credits, or the equivalent

Objectives

After completing the course students are expected to have acquired deepened knowledge within cultural studies linked to product design.

Knowledge and Understanding

Students are expected to be able to

- account for and use concepts from the cultural studies discipline
- describe how and when cultural studies and observations can be used in a design process to create knowledge with the purpose of improving future products to fit into the activity or context under study
- discuss and reflect on conditions from different standpoints and perspectives.

Ability and Skills

Students are expected to be able to

- choose methods for examining and creating knowledge about situations,

- phenomena, activities or the similar, primarily by qualitative approaches
- use methods from the cultural studies area to acquire knowledge about groups of people in relation to a context, a concrete situation, phenomenon, activity, or the similar, to improve the product proposal
 - use observation methods to acquire knowledge from a context, a concrete situation, phenomenon, activity, or the similar, to improve the product proposal

Evaluation and Attitude

Students are expected to be able to

- reflect on and critically examine how different approaches can provide different 'results'. Students are also expected to be able to choose among and argue for different choices
- reflect on whether and how differences in gender, class, capital, or other factors, seem to change actions and the creation of importance in different contexts.

Content

Cultural Studies. The focus of the course both at individual and social levels highlights the contrast between the close and the distant perspective. Observation methods are taken from Ethnology, while Cultural Studies contribute more of a theoretical approach. Students acquire the ability to assess widely differing aspects of humans and society, gender, class, capital, etc., for the purpose of becoming able to create proposals for products that will be considered more useful by future users. The course also includes the writing of a brief paper which clearly describes the knowledge acquired during course observations.

Type of Instruction

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars, individual project work, workshops and supervision. Attendance at scheduled course elements is mandatory.

Examination

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

To obtain the Pass grade the expected study outcome must be fulfilled.

The examination takes the form of workbook presentations. The basis of the assessment is the five workbook dimensions, where each dimension may contribute 1-7 credits. The grades used are Pass with Distinction (28 – 35 credits), Pass (13-27 credits), or Fail (0-12 credits).

Re-examinations are offered within six weeks in the framework of regular term periods. The number of examinations is limited to five occasions.

Course Evaluation

Towards the end of the course a course evaluation is conducted in accordance with the Linnaeus University guidelines. The evaluation result is compiled in a course report, which is kept in the archives of the administrator of the School of Design and is discussed in the programme advisory board. The result of the evaluation and any measures taken are communicated to the course coordinator and will be presented to the students on the following course occasion

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Mandatory literature

du Gay, Hall, Janes, Mackay & Negus (1997) *Doing Cultural Studies, the story of the*

Sony Walkman. Sage

Ehn, Billy & Löfgren, Orvar (2001) *Kulturanalyser*. Gleerups.

Storey, John (2001) *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture, An Introduction*. 3rd edition, Pearson, UK.

Current and relevant articles

Reference literature

Baldwin, Longhurst, McCracken, Ogborn & Smith (1999) *Introducing Cultural Studies*. Prentice Hall Europe.

Hall, Stuart, (1997) *Representation, Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. SAGE.

The list may be subject to changes.