Linnæus University

Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Language and Literature

1FV20E Filmvetenskap, fortsättningskurs, 30 högskolepoäng
Film Studies, Continuation Course, 30 credits

Main field of study
Film Studies

Subject Group
Film Studies

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
G1E

Date of Ratification
Approved by Organisational Committee 2009-06-16

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2010

Prerequisites
1-30 higher education credits in Film Studies or the equivalent

Expected learning outcomes

Module 1
After completing the course, the student should:

- have the ability to critically and independently discuss film and television as well as give an account of their aesthetic, social, technical and economic histories up to present times.

Module 2
After completing the course, the student should:

- have the ability to explain and discuss the history of documentary film and the distinctive character of film aesthetics,
- have developed proficiency in producing a simple digital film.

Module 3
After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- problemize the representation of violence in film and literature based on aesthetical and societal perspectives,
- analyze cinematic and literary representations of violence and the function of the

depiction of violence in relation to the narrative,
- discuss medial differences and similarities between film and literature based on questions of physicality and effect.

Module 4
After completing the course, the student should:

- have the ability to apply a critical and analytical attitude in written academic reports within the area of film studies.

Content

Module 1. Film history and history of media, continuation course (7.5 higher education credits)
The course is given as a thematic, historical study of themes such as Scandinavian film, early film, genre, copyright, modern film and television. The themes may vary from semester to semester. The course integrates the acquisition of subject knowledge with a theoretical reflection of historical questions.

Module 2. Documentary film in theory and in practice (7.5 higher education credits)
During the course, students will complete a minor, practical documentary film project. In conjunction with the project, non-fictional film history and its form of expression will be explained as well as the theoretical problem areas that are connected to documentary film.

Module 3. Violence in film and literature (7.5 higher education credits)
The course covers the significance of physical violence in film and modern literature based on aesthetical and societal perspectives. A central idea is that violence in a story may have several meanings. Violence can be visual aestheticization or a representation of physical pain beyond linguistic understanding. It can also reflect political traumas and manifest society's view of moral boundaries, power relations, war, sexuality and political oppression.

Module 4. Independent project (7.5 higher education credits)
The course aims to give the student the opportunity to train a critical and analytical attitude in written academic reports. The students write a short, independent paper as well as act as opponent on another student's work.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is in the form of lectures, classroom teaching, group discussions, practical exercises, seminars and film showings. Participation in seminars and practical exercises is mandatory, as well as attendance at the first teaching session of each module.

The course can be taken as a distance course with the aid of an online learning management system.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).
Examination forms during Modules 1 and 3 are take-home examinations or written examinations.

Examination during Module 2 occurs as a written and oral commented statement in the form of a short film, individually or in a group.

Examination forms during Module 4 are a finished essay, acting as opponent on another student's essay, and active participation in seminars.

In order to receive a final grade of Pass with Distinction for the entire course, the

student must receive the grade of Pass with Distinction in at least 22.5 of the 30 higher education credits.

Students at Linnaeus University are entitled to have the course grade translated into the 7-step ECTS scale. A request to have the grades translated must be made to the teacher at the start of the course.

For students who fail to earn a Pass grade at the first examination opportunity, a maximum of four additional examination opportunities will be provided.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a written course evaluation is performed and compiled into a report. The evaluation report is available to students and is filed and stored according to departmental regulations.

Credit Overlap

Module 3, *Violence in film and literature*, can also be taken as a freestanding course. It can be found under course code 1FV203 or 1LI203.

Other

During Module 1, teaching takes place partly in English if foreign exchange students are taking the course. Module 3 is taken together with the distance students. A few seminars are included for students on campus, but the course also takes place within the online learning management system.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1. Film history and history of media, continuation course

Hedling, Erik & Wallengren, AnnKristin (eds.). 2006.
Solskenslandet – svensk film på 2000talet.
Stockholm: Atlantis.
372 pages

Koskinen, Maaret (ed.). 2008.
Ingmar Bergman Revisited: Performance, Cinema and the Arts.
London: Wallflower.
242 pages

Nestingen, Andrew & Elkington, Trevor G. (eds.). 2005.
Transnational Cinema in a Global North: Nordic Cinema in Transition.
Detroit: Wayne State University Press.
360 pages

Module 2. Documentary film in theory and in practice

Bruzzi, Stella. 2000.
New Documentary: A Critical Introduction.
London: Routledge.
199 pages

Nichols, Bill. 2001.
Introduction to Documentary.
Bloomington: Indiana Univ. Press.
223 pages

Nordblom, Lars. 2004.
Rörlig bild. En introduktion till den rörliga bildens språkliga gestaltning och Kommunikation.
Compendium

Module 3. Violence in film and literature

Armstrong, Nancy & Leonard Tennenhouse (eds.). 1989.
The violence of representation : literature and the history of violence.
London: Routledge.
200 pages

Durand, AlainPhilippe & Naomi Mandel (eds.). 2006.
Novels of the contemporary extreme.
New York/London: Continuum (e-book).
190 pages

Gjelsvik, Anne. 2007.
Vondt og vakkert. Vold i audiovisuelle medier.
Höyskoleforlaget, Oslo.
50 pages

Leitch, Thomas. 2007.
"Literature vs. Literacy" in *Film Adaptation and its Discontents. From Gone with the Wind to The Passion of Christ*.
The Johns Hopkins UP: Baltimore.
20 pages

Prince, Stephen (ed). 2000.
Screening violence.
Continuum International Publishing Group.
Ca 150 pages (selected pages)

Slocum, David J. (ed.) 2001.
Violence and American Cinema.
London: Routledge.
Ca 200 pages (selected pages)

Module 4. Independent project
Att skriva uppsats i filmvetenskap.
Compendium.
10 pages

Svenska skrivregler.
2008. (3rd, expanded edition). Stockholm: Liber.
263 pages

Material provided by the department (all modules) – ca 200 pages

Additional material
Module 3. Violence in film and literature
Films:
American Psycho (Mary Harron, 2000)
Män som hatar kvinnor (Niels Arden Oplev, 2009)

In addition to these films, the course's film material includes a list with film clips available on the Internet for course students.

Fiction:
Ellis, Brett Easton, *American Psycho*, 1991.
Larsson, Stieg, *Män som hatar kvinnor*, 2005.

In addition to these novels, the course includes a compendium with shorter works of fiction.