

# **Linnæus University**

## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Department of Film and Literature

1KS106 Att skriva fantasylitteratur, 30 högskolepoäng Writing fantasy novels, 30 credits

## Main field of study

Creative Writing

## Subject Group

Creative Writing

#### Level of classification

First Level

#### Progression

G1N

#### Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2015-11-30 The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2016

#### Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

## Objectives

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

- account for and critically reflect on the traditions and genres of fantasy literature,
- write an extensive, coherent and artistic text in a fantasy genre.

## Module 1: Creating a fantasy world (5 credits)

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

- independently and critically account for how fantasy worlds are constructed and designed in fiction and relate this to their own writing,
- carry out independent studies in preparation for writing a fantasy novel.

## Module 2: Writing exercises and interpretation of fantasy novels (10 credits) After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- artistically master technical aspects of writing, such as writing dialogues and describing characters and environments, in a fictional text in a fantasy genre,
- independently and critically review historical and artistic aspects of fantasy novels and relate this to their own writing.

## Module 3: Writing a fantasy novel (15 credits)

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

- integrate and transform theoretical and analytical knowledge in an artistic, fictional text in a fantasy genre,
- use the Swedish language in a personal and creative way in a fictional fantasy genre,
- write an extensive, coherent and artistic fictional text.

#### Content

This course has an artistic approach and focuses on writing a fantasy novel. During the course, the students produce fictional, artistic texts in a fantasy genre, in consultation with the teacher. Theoretical studies provide the students with a foundation for their creation of their own fictional fantasy world.

### Module 1: Creating a fantasy world (5 credits)

This module focuses on constructing a fantasy world taking genre requirements and artistic credibility into account. The studies are related to the students' own writing and should support their literary understanding of the genre requirements of the fantasy novel.

Module 2: Writing exercises and interpretation of fantasy novels (10 credits) In this module the students write short fictional texts in which they practise creating credibility in dialogues and descriptions of environments and characters. The aim of the module is to develop the students' artistic and technical awareness of the fictional fantasy text as preparation for their own up-coming literary project. The module also includes reading fantasy. The texts are chosen individually and the students' literary and genre-related analyses of the methods used by the authors should support their own writing.

## Module 3: Writing a fantasy novel (15 credits)

This module focuses on the students' own writing. The students write a short story in the fantasy genre, or begin writing a fantasy novel, in consultation with the teacher.

All assignments in the course are compulsory.

## Type of Instruction

The course is distance-based and carried out in the form of written assignments and discussions on an online learning platform and through online meetings. The students also critically and constructively comment on each other's texts, and self-critically reflect on their own texts. The students are also offered individual supervision in the various parts of the course, focusing on the students' own writing.

#### Examination

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

Module 1 is assessed with the grades Fail (U) or Pass (G). Modules 2 and 3 are assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG). In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the intended learning outcomes. In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must demonstrate artistically qualified, independent and original fiction writing.

In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction on the course as a whole, the student must have received this grade for at least 15 credits. For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

Module 1 is examined through contributions to discussion forums on the online learning platform.

Module 2 is examined through a reading report in which the students relate their reading

to their own writing, through written inchonal texts, and through contributions to discussion forums on the online learning platform on their own and the other students' writing.

Module 3 is examined through a written fictional text, and through contributions to discussion forums on the online learning platform on their own and the other students' writing.

## Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted and compiled into a report, which is made available to students and filed and stored according to departmental regulations.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

## Additional Study Material

Bergsten, Staffan & Lars Elleström, *Litteraturhistoriens grundbegrepp*, Studentlitteratur, 234 p. The latest edition.

## Module 1: Creating a fantasy world (5 credits)

Card, Orson Scott. How to write Science fiction & fantasy, Writer's digest books, 140 p. Any edition.

Eriksson, Bo. Tusen år av fantasy: Resan till Mordor. Historiska Media. 352 p. Any edition.

Frankel, Valerie Estelle. 2014. Women in Game of Thrones. Power, Conformity and Resistance, Mc Farland & Co. 206 p. ISBN 9780786494163

Johansson, Annika. 2009. Världar av ljus, världar av mörker: om fantasy. Btj. (3rd revised edition). 304 p. ISBN 9789170186554

Nilson, Maria, Ehriander, Helene, (eds). 2012. Ett trollspö på katedern: att arbeta med fantasy i skolan. BTJ Förlag. 330 p. ISBN 9789170187377

Waltz, Jason M. 2013. Writing Fantasy Heroes, Rogue Blades Entertainment. 201 p. ISBN 9780982053683

Module 2: Writing exercises and interpretation of fantasy novels (10 credits) Augustsson, Lars Åke. Så skriver du romaner och noveller. 250 p. Any edition.

Hart, Blaine. 2015. Writing Fantasy. The Top 100 Best Strategies for Writing Fantasy Stories. Createspace. 68 p. ISBN 9781514769683

Norin, Elisabet. 2011. Tre enkla regler finns inte. En romanskola. Isaberg förlag. 352 p. ISBN 9789176948446

Svenska skrivregler. Språkrådet/Liber. The latest edition. 263 p.

Works of fiction supporting the student's own writing chosen in consultation with the teacher. Ca. 500 p.

#### Module 3: Writing a fantasy novel (15 credits)

Novels and non-fictional articles chosen on the basis of the student's writing in consultation with the teacher. Ca. 1,000 p.