



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

1KV200 Kultur, identitet och traditioner i Sverige, 30 högskolepoäng
Culture, Identity and Traditions in Sweden, 30 credits

Subject Group

Other Interdisciplinary Studies

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2018-06-19

Revised 2021-06-18 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and English B (Field-specific entry requirements 6/A6).

Objectives

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

- account for a selection of cultural manifestations in Sweden, from spatial and temporal perspectives,
- discuss and problematise the concept of Swedish identity,
- compare historical and contemporary cultural expressions in Sweden with examples from other parts of the world,
- conduct a project related to the content of the course.

Module 1. History and religion in Sweden 7.5 credits

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

- in general terms account for the main features of Swedish history,
- account for central historical developments, and take into consideration the role and changed status of religions,
- discuss cultural, religious and social conditions in modern Sweden from a historical perspective,
- exemplify and discuss similarities and differences between the historical development in Sweden and the history of some other country or culture.

Module 2. Music and art in Sweden 7.5 credits

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

- account for musical and visual means of expression in Sweden from historical

- and contemporary perspectives,
- identify and describe musical and visual means of expression from different time periods,
- relate musical and visual means of expression to contemporary cultural and societal contexts,
- exemplify and compare musical and visual means of expression in Sweden with the means of expression of another country or culture.

Module 3. The Swedish landscape: temporal and spatial perspectives 7.5 credits

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

- describe the development and changes in a certain area of the Swedish rural landscape,
- discuss the interplay between humans and the environment from a long-term perspective,
- account for the urban architectural design in different time periods,
- discuss the interplay between urban development and changes in the surrounding rural landscape,
- exemplify and compare the development of the Swedish rural landscape with changes in rural landscapes in other parts of the world.

Module 4. Project, 7.5 credits

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

- individually or in groups formulate a project idea related to Swedish culture or traditions,
- collect and evaluate material that may be utilised in the implementation of the chosen project, in consultation with a supervisor,
- analyse, problematise and synthesise material within the chosen field in the cultural sciences, individually or in groups and with the help of a supervisor,
- select an appropriate form (e.g. performance, audiovisual presentation, lecture, poster) for a public presentation, and present the results of the project,
- individually and critically review their collected material in a written paper with correct structure and layout.

Content

The course includes an introduction to and problematisation of various aspects of Swedish culture, identity and traditions.

Module 1 History and religion in Sweden 7.5 credits

This module introduces the main features of the political, economic, religious and social developments in Sweden during 1,000 years: from the rule of Viking chieftains to the national state and further to a modern, pluralistic country which is part of a more and more globalized world. A sub-theme of the module is the role and changed prerequisites of religions: from the Old Norse religion and Sami tradition, via the predominant role of Christianity, to the present times characterised by secularisation and religious diversity. The concept of Swedish identity is problematised in relation to women and men, the importance of migration, and the expansion of the welfare state. Throughout the module, comparisons and connections are made between Swedish history and the countries and cultures the students are familiar with.

Module 2 Music and art in Sweden 7.5 credits

This module starts with a general introduction to musical and visual means of expression in Sweden prior to 1720. After this, the module will focus on three time periods:

- the Age of Liberty and the Gustavian period,
- modernity and modernism,
- the present times.

All these will be studied from a combined approach to musical and visual means of expression in various social and cultural environments and institutions. The module will also discuss economic, technical, idea-historical and aesthetic changes. Throughout the module, comparisons and connections are made between musical and visual means of expression in Sweden and in other countries and cultures the students are familiar with.

Module 3 The Swedish landscape: temporal and spatial perspectives 7.5 credits

This module discusses the rural landscape in Sweden from archaeological and ethnogeographical perspectives, in particular as regards the development of prehistoric and historical landscapes throughout time, as well as urban architecture and the interplay between the city and changes in the surrounding rural landscape. The interplay between humans, settlements and the environment is also discussed from multidisciplinary and long-term perspectives.

Module 4 Project 7.5 credits

In this module, the students apply the knowledge they have acquired in previous modules and conduct an in-depth study, individually or in groups, with the help of a supervisor. The study should be in the form of a project, based on one or more of the fields within the cultural sciences discussed in the previous modules.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, workshops, seminars, supervision and a mandatory excursion.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail. Grade criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the student through a special document. The student is to be informed about the grade criteria for the course by the start of the course at the latest.

The following forms of examination occur:

Modules 1 and 2 are examined through:

- written assignments
- active participation in seminars

Module 3 is examined through:

- written assignments
- active participation in seminars and an excursion

Module 4 is examined through:

- an individual written assignment
- a presentation of the project, individually or in groups

Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. 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 the implementation of the course or in close conjunction with the course, a course evaluation is to be carried out. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are to be promptly presented as feedback to the students who have completed the course. Students who participate during the next course instance receive feedback at the start of the course. The course evaluation is to be carried out anonymously.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

List of references Module 1 - History and religion in Sweden 7.5 credits

History of Religions in Sweden. Articles provided by the Department of Cultural Sciences (ca. 350 p.

Lindström, T. et al., (2018), *A Concise History of Sweden from the Viking Age to the Present*, Studentlitteratur, 232 p. ISBN:9789144104973

Articles provided at the online learning platform, ca 300 p.

List of references Module 2 - Music and art in Sweden 7.5 credits

Lindgren, Mereth (ed.), (the latest edition), *A history of Swedish art*, Signum, Lund, 277 pages.

Lundberg, Dan, (the latest edition), *Swedish folk Music – from village greens to concert platform*, available on the Internet:
old.visarkiv.se/online/swedish_folkmusic.htm, 13 pages + ringing examples

Lundberg, Dan & Malm, Krister & Ronström, Ove, (the latest edition), *Music, Media, Multiculture. Changing Musicscapes*, available on the Internet:
old.visarkiv.se/online/online_mmm.html, selection, ca 200 pages

Music in Sweden 2 – Folk music, available on the Internet:
old.visarkiv.se/online/music_in_sweden.html, 14 pages + ringing examples.

Rörby, Martin, (the latest edition), *Architecture in Sweden: function, design and aesthetic through the ages*, Arkitekturmuseet, Stockholm, 127 pages.

Sommar, Ingrid, (the latest edition), *Scandinavian design*, Carlton books Ltd, 224 pages.

Westin, Lars, (the latest edition), *Jazz in Sweden – an overview*, available on the Internet: old.visarkiv.se/online/music_in_sweden.html, 20 pages + ringing examples

Compendium:

Music and visual art in Sweden. Articles provided at the online learning platform, ca 200 p.

Additional study material/Online resources:

Knust, Martin [‘The Picturesque in Hugo Alfvén’s Music. A music–iconographical study’] “Det pittoreska i Hugo Alfvéns musik: en musikikonografisk studie”, [*Hugo Alfvén – Life and Work in New Perspective*] Hugo Alfvén – liv och verk i ny belysning (= Kungl. Musikaliska Akademiens skriftserie vol. CXXV), Gunnar Ternhag, Joakim Tillman (eds.), [Hedemora]: Gidlunds förlag, 2012, pp. 147–177 (non-obligatory; in Swedish)

Oxford Music Online

Svensk musik, (the latest edition), *Biographies*, online resource. www.mic.se/avd/mic/prod/micv6eng.nsf/AllDocuments/DE4E1A11C60848C9C1257228

List of references Module 3 - The Swedish landscape: temporal and spatial perspectives 7.5 credits

Hansson, Martin, (the latest edition), Aristocratic expressions in landscape and settlement from the Viking Age to the Middle Ages. Sindbæk, S.M. & Poulsen, B. (eds). *Settlement and Lordship in Viking and Early Medieval Scandinavia*. Turnhout. pp. 79–93. ISBN 978-2-503-53131-1

Hermelin, Brita & Jansson, Ulf (eds), (the latest edition), *Placing Human Geography: Sweden Through Time and Space*. Ymer. Stockholm: The Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography. 350 p.

Petersson, Maria, (the latest edition), The Early Iron Age Landscape. Social Structure and the Organisation of Labour. Boye, L. (ed.). Det 61. *Internationale Sachsensymposion 2010 Haderslev, Danmark*. Neumünster. pp. 249–268.

Price, T. Douglas (2015). *Ancient Scandinavia [Elektronisk resurs] an archaeological history from the first humans to the Vikings*. New York: Oxford University Press, 494 pages. ISBN: 9780190231972

List of references Module 4 - Project 7.5 credits

Sørensen, Øystein and Stråth, Bo, Eds, (the latest edition), *The cultural construction of Norden*, Scandinavian Univ. Press, 315 p.

Literature relevant for the theme, chosen in consultation with the teacher. Ca 800 p.