



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
Department of Cultural Sciences

1KV210 Sverige: land, historia och kultur, 30 högskolepoäng  
Sweden: Land, history, and culture, 30 credits

### Main field of study

History  
Religious Studies  
Geography  
Archaeology  
Music

### Subject

Other Interdisciplinary Studies

### Level

First cycle

### Progression

G1N

### Date of Ratification

Approved 2024-12-17.  
The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2025.

### Prerequisites

General entry requirements + English 6

## Objectives

*Section 1. 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.

*Section 2: From the Vikings to the warrior kings: the development of Sweden from the late 700s to 1721. 7.5 credits*

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

- in general terms account for the main features of Swedish history up to 1721,
- account for central historical developments, and take into consideration the role and changed status of religions,
- account for important minority peoples within the Swedish realm and their contributions to Swedish history up to 1721,
- exemplify and discuss similarities and differences between historical developments in Sweden and the history of some other country or culture.

*Section 3: Modern Sweden: cultural, political, and religious developments from 1721 to today. 7.5 credits*

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

- in general terms account for the main features of Swedish history from 1721,
- discuss cultural, religious and social conditions in modern Sweden from a historical perspective,
- discuss how emigration and immigration contributed to forming modern Sweden,
- exemplify and discuss similarities and differences between the historical development of modern Sweden and that of some other country.

*Section 4: 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.

## Content

*Section 1. 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.

*Section 2. From the Vikings to the warrior kings: the development of Sweden from the late 700s to 1721. 7.5 credits*

The module provides an overview of the main features of political, economic, social and religious developments in Sweden from the Viking Age to the death of Charles XII and the end of the era of the Swedish empire, around 1721. Swedish identity is problematised through discussions on indigenous peoples, the significance of migration, and the position of Skåne and Finland within the Swedish realm. A recurring theme throughout the module is religious change: from Norse and Sámi traditions to the establishment of the Catholic Church in Sweden, the Reformation, and a period of Lutheran dominance. Changes in gender relations are also highlighted. Throughout the module, comparisons and connections are made between Swedish history and the countries and cultures with which the students are familiar.

*Section 3. Modern Sweden: cultural, political, and religious developments from 1721 to today. 7.5 credits*

The module provides an overview of the main features of political, economic, religious and social developments in Sweden from 1721 to its emergence as a modern, pluralistic country in an increasingly globalised world. A recurring theme throughout the module is religious change, from a unified state church to a contemporary context characterised by both secularisation and religious diversity. Swedish identity is problematised through the study of ethnic and religious minorities in Sweden and the impact of migration on society. The module also addresses changing gender relations and the emergence of the welfare state. Throughout the module, comparisons and connections are made between Swedish history and the countries and cultures with which the students are familiar.

*Section 4. 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.

## Type of Instruction

Instruction is in the form of lectures, workshops, seminars and an excursion

## Examination

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

Section 1 is examined through:

- written assignments
- active participation in seminars and an excursion.

Section 2 is examined through:

- written exam.

Section 3 is examined through:

- written exam.

Section 4 is examined through:

- written assignments
- active participation in seminars.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels. In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

## Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

## Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course:

1KV200 30 credits,  
1KV201 (7,5 credits)  
1KV202 (7,5 credits)  
1KV203 (7,5 credits)  
1KV204 (7,5 credits)  
1KV205 (7,5 credits)

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Section 1:

Hansson, Martin. 2012. Aristocratic expressions in landscape and settlement from the Viking Age to the Middle Ages. In Sindbæk, Sören M. & Poulsen, Björn (ed.). *Settlement and Lordship in Viking and Early Medieval Scandinavia*. Turnhout: Brepols. pp. 79–93. 978-2-503-53131-1

Hermelin, Brita & Jansson, Ulf (ed.). 2010. *Placing Human Geography: Sweden*

*Through Time and Space*. Ymer. Stockholm: Svenska sällskapet för antropologi och geografi. 350 p.

Petersson, Maria. 2011. The Early Iron Age Landscape. Social Structure and the Organisation of Labour. In Boye, L. (ed.). *Det 61. Internationale Sachsensymposium 2010* Haderslev, Danmark. Neumünster: Wachholtz pp. 249-268.

Price, T. Douglas. 2015. *Ancient Scandinavia. An Archaeological History from the First Humans to the Vikings*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (494 p.). ISBN: 9780190231972

Section 2:

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

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

Section 3:

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

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

Section 4:

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

Lundberg, Dan, *Swedish folk Music – from village greens to concert platform*, fulltext internet: [old.visarkiv.se/online/swedish\\_folkmusic.htm](http://old.visarkiv.se/online/swedish_folkmusic.htm), senaste upplagan, 13 pages+ music examples.

Lundberg, Dan & Malm, Krister & Ronström, Ove. *Music, Media, Multiculture. Changing Muscscapes*, fulltext internet: [old.visarkiv.se/online/online\\_mmm.html](http://old.visarkiv.se/online/online_mmm.html), latest edition, ca 200 pages in selection.

*Music in Sweden 2 – Folk music*, fulltext internet: [old.visarkiv.se/online/music\\_in\\_sweden.html](http://old.visarkiv.se/online/music_in_sweden.html), 14 sidor + music examples

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

Sommar, Ingrid. *Scandinavian design*, Carlton books Ltd, latest edition, 224 p.

Westin, Lars. *Jazz in Sweden – an overview*, fulltext internet: [old.visarkiv.se/online/music\\_in\\_sweden.html](http://old.visarkiv.se/online/music_in_sweden.html), latest edition, 20 p. + music examples

Compendium: *Music and visual art in Sweden*. Articles provided on the online learning platform, ca 200 p.

Additional study material:

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)

Internet resources:

Oxford Music Online Svensk musik (senaste upplagan) Biographies,

internetresurs [www.mic.se/avd/mic/prod/micv6eng.nsf/AllDocuments/DE4E1A11C60848C9C1](http://www.mic.se/avd/mic/prod/micv6eng.nsf/AllDocuments/DE4E1A11C60848C9C1)