



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Film and Literature

1LI130 Romance - kärleksromaner från tre decennier, 7,5
högskolepoäng

Romance - romantic fiction from three decades, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Comparative Literature

Subject Group

Comparative Literature

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2013-11-20

Revised 2015-02-17 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2015

Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

Objectives

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

- in general terms account for the development of the romance genre during the last three decades,
- discuss romance as a part of popular literature,
- critically review romantic fiction.

Content

Romance is a major and important part of popular literature today. This course includes an extensive introduction to the genre. The students read and compare romance from three decades, and discuss romance in relation to popular literary tradition. The course starts with classical romantic fiction from the 19th century, often referred to as the start of the genre. Then it discusses both the historical development of romance and modern romance, focusing specifically on chick lit from the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Finally, the course discusses the development of the genre in the 21st century, including some recent popular works of romance.

Compulsory online seminars are included in the course.

Type of Instruction

The teaching is distance-based and carried out on an online learning platform.

Examination

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

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the objectives must be achieved. The course is examined continuously through assignments with given deadlines and compulsory contributions to discussions.

For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

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

Eriksson, Magnus. 1991. "Den moraliska motbilden. Om kärlek och musik hos Jackie Collins". In *Tidskrift för litteraturvetenskap* no 2, pp. 17–27. 11 p. (available online).

Fahlgren, Margareta. 1986. "'Det maskinsyddas broderiet'. Lace och 80talets kvinnliga populärroman". In *Tidskrift för genusvetenskap* no. 3, pp. 48–55. 7 p. (available online).

Nilson, Maria & Helene Ehriander. 2012. *Chick lit. Brokiga läsningar och didaktiska utmaningar*. Liber förlag. 200 p. ISBN 9789147105533

Nilson, Maria. 2013. "From the Flame and the Flower to Fifty Shades of Grey. Sex, Power and Desire in the Romance Novel". In *Bestseller and Blockbuster Culture – Books, Cinema and Television*, volume 7, Academic Quarter (available online).

Nilson, Maria. 2015. *Kärlek, begär och romantik. Om romance*. BTJ förlag, 200 p. Forthcoming.

Öhman, Anders. 2002 or later. *Populärlitteratur. De populära genrernas estetik och historia*. Studentlitteratur. Selection, 100 p.

Regis, Pamela. 2003 or later. *A Natural History of the Romance Novel*. University of Pennsylvania Press. 209 p.

Additional fiction, ca. 2000 pages.