



## 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 2016-02-18 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.  
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2016

### **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 student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified when the course starts. 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

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. ISBN 978-91-7018-793-3

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

Roach, Catherine. 2010. 'Getting a Good Man to Love' Popular Romance Fiction and the Problem of Patriarchy. *Journal of Popular Romance Studies* 1.1 (tillgänglig online)

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

### **Fiction:**

Ahrnstedt, Simona. *En enda natt* (any edition).

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice* (any edition).

Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre* (any edition).

Fielding, Helen. *Bridget Jones' Diary* (any edition).

Roberts, Nora. Any titel.

Stark, Sigge. Any titel.

Woodiwiss, Kathleen, *The Flame and the Flower* (any edition).