



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Film and Literature

1LI202 Litteratur och psykologi, 15 högskolepoäng
Literature and Psychology, 15 credits

Main field of study

Comparative Literature

Subject

Comparative Literature

Level

First cycle

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2009-06-16.

Revised 2023-11-30.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2024.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

Objectives

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

- account for and apply terminology within comparative literature and the concepts that are used when studying literature in its relation to psychology,
- demonstrate the ability to think critically and use the Swedish language correctly.

Module 1, Psychological aspects of literature, 7.5 credits

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

- account for ways in which literature can be analysed and interpreted on the basis of psychological aspects,
- account for parts of Swedish and general literary history, and demonstrate fundamental knowledge of genres.

Module 2, Literature, psychology and theory, 7.5 credits

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

- account for how literature can be related to psychological theories,
- analyse and discuss chosen literary texts from the perspectives covered in the course.

Content

In the course the student thematically studies literature and psychology and focuses on certain individual works of fiction and relevant non-fictional literature. The course covers and problematises the relation between literature and dreams, unconscious impulses, archetypes and myths, which has been described within psychoanalysis.

Module 1 discusses basic concepts within comparative literature, such as epoch and genre, and how psychological aspects have been expressed in old and new literature.

Module 2 discusses literary texts, focusing partly on new literature, on the basis of psychological theories.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is in the form of lectures, seminars and group exercises. When the course is offered as a distance course, an online learning environment is used.

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. In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must have received this grade on both modules.

Module 1 is examined through participation in seminar discussions and a final take-home examination.

Module 2 is examined through participation in seminar discussions and a final paper.

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.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Recommended anthologies

Breitholtz, Lennart (ed.). 1961 or later. *Litteraturens klassiker* (LK), Volumes 1–18. AWE/Geber et.al.

or

Claésson, Dick, Lars Fyhr & Gunnar D Hansson (eds.). 2006. *Texter från Sapfo till Strindberg* (TT). Lund: Studentlitteratur. ISBN 91-44-03248-X

Lewan, Bengt. 1990 or later. *Världsdramatik* (VD), volumes 1–3. Lund: Studentlitteratur.

litteraturbanken.se (LB)

Module 1: Psychological aspects of literature, 7.5 credits

Non-fiction

Bergsten, Staffan & Lars Elleström. 2004. *Litteraturhistoriens grundbegrepp*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. pp. 49–80, pp. 93–135, pp. 147–172 (98 pp.) ISBN 91-44-04255-8

Freud, Sigmund. 1990. *Dora. Brottstycke av en hysterianalys*. Gothenburg: Alster förlag, pp. 23–107. (84 pp.) ISBN 91-88050-09-9

Glans, Kay. 1998. "Psykoloniseringen av diktarnas domän", in *Jung och litteraturen*, Kurt Almqvist (ed.). Stockholm: Natur och Kultur (23 pp.). ISBN 91-27-07215-0

Jung, C G. 2003. "Den analytiska psykologins förhållande till det litterära konstverket", in *Litteratur; myter och symboler*, in the series *Valda skrifter av C G Jung*, translation Dorothee Sporning, peer review Kurt Almqvist, Stockholm: Natur och Kultur (22 pp.). ISBN 91-27-08467-1. Available on the learning platform.

Nylander, Lars. 1986. "Psykoanalys och litteratur – den dubbla utmaningen", in Nylander, Lars (ed.) *Litteratur och Psykoanalys*. Stockholm: Norstedts, pp. 1–66. (66 pp.) ISBN 91-1-853321-3

Sigrell, Bo. 1994 or later. *Narcissism. Ett psykodynamiskt perspektiv*, Stockholm: Natur och Kultur, pp. 15–29 (14 pp.).

Simon, Bennett. 1978. *Mind and Madness in Ancient Greece: The Classical Roots of Modern Psychiatry*. Ithaca, pp. 53–77. (25 pp.) ISBN 0-8014-0859-8

Module 2: Literature, psychology and theory, 7.5 credits

Non-fiction

Burman, Carina. 2002. "Biografisk litteraturforskning", in Bergsten, Staffan (ed.) *Litteraturvetenskap - en inledning*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, pp. 71–80. (10 pp.) ISBN 91-44-02332-4

Caracciolo, Marco & Van Duuren, Thom. 2015. "Changed by Literature? A critical Review of Psychological Research on the Effects of Reading Fiction", in *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies*. Vol 17 No 4. Penn State University Press pp. 517–539 (22 pp.). Available through UB.

Crafoord, Clarence. 1993. *Barndomens återkomst*. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. (Chapters: "Barndomens minne och minnets barndom" and "Litteraturen på analyssoffan", 52 pp.) ISBN 91-27-03631-6

Cullberg, Johan. 1992 or later. *Skaparkriser: Strindbergs inferno och Dagermans*, Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. (197 pp.)

De Botton, Alain. 1998. *Låt Proust förändra ditt liv*. Stockholm : Wahlström & Widstrand. (Chapter: "Konsten att läsa självständigt", 19 pp.) ISBN 91-46-17341-2

Fearn, Nicholas, 2003. *Att tänka som en filosof*. Stockholm: Bonniers (Chapters: "Den äldre Wittgensteins spel" and "Kants glasögon", 20 pp.) ISBN 91-0-058010-4

Gustafsson Rosenqvist, Barbro. 1999. *Att skapa en ny värld. Samhällssyn, kvinnosyn och djuppsykologi hos Karin Boye*. Stockholm: Carlssons, pp. 182–239. (58 pp.) ISBN 91-7203-866-7

Gärdenfors, Peter. 1992 or later. *Blotta tanken*. Nora: Nya Doxa (Chapters: "Tanken: ord bild eller vad?", "Medvetandets evolution" and "Finns ordens betydelse i huvudet eller utanför?", 59 pp.)

Holland, Norman N. 1980. "Unity Identity Text Self". In Jane P. Tompkins, (ed.) *Reader-Response Criticism: From Formalism to Post-Structuralism*. Baltimore, London: The Johns Hopkins University Press. (15 pp.) ISBN 0-8018-2400-1

Holland, Norman N. 2013. "Don Quixote and the Neuroscience of Metafiction", in Jaén, Isabel and Julien Jacques, Simon (eds.) *Cognitive Literary Studies: Current themes and new directions*. University of Texas Press, dept. III, pp. 73–86 (13 pp.). ISBN: 978-02-292-75442-3. Available through UB.

Manguel, Alberto. 1999. *En historia om läsning*. Stockholm: Ordfront (Chapter: "Den felande första sidan", 8 pp.) ISBN 91-7324-607-7

Mishara, Aaron L. 2013. "The Literary Neuroscience of Kafka's Hypnagogic Hallucinations: How Literature Informs the Neuroscientific Study of Self and Its Disorders", in Jaén, Isabel and Julien Jacques, Simon (eds.) *Cognitive Literary Studies: Current themes and new directions*. University of Texas Press, dept. III pp. 105–124 (19 pp.). ISBN: 978-02-292-75442-3. Available through UB.

Schottenius, Maria. 1998. "Den kvinnliga hemligheten. Om Kerstin Ekmans berättarkonst", in Almqvist, Kurt (ed.) *Jung och litteraturen*. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. (32 pp.) ISBN 91-27-07215-0

Sigrell, Bo. 1994 or later. *Narcissism. Ett psykodynamiskt perspektiv*, Stockholm: Natur

och Kultur, pp. 30–50 (20 pp.).

Turner, Mark. 1996 or later. *The Literary Mind*. New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press (Chapters: “Bedtime with Shahrazad” and “Human meaning”, 19 pp.)

Witt-Brattström, Ebba. 1983. ”Ur textens mörker – det kvinnliga antisubjektet och fadersblicken, in *Ord & Bild* 1983:4, (15 pp.).

Works of fiction for both modules

The Bible: from the Book of Revelation

Benedictsson, Victoria. "Ur mörkret"

Birgitta. in *Revelationes* (LB)

Boye, Karin. Poems (TT)

Dagerman, Stig. *Ormen*

Ekman, Kerstin. *En stad av ljus*

Goethe, Johann Wolfgang. *Den unge Werthers lidanden* (LK)

Kafka, Franz. *Processen*

Lundgren, Maja. *Myggor och tigrar*

Nordenflycht, Hedvig Charlotta. poems (LB)

Ovidius. *Narcissus* (LK/TT)

Poe, Edgar Allan. ”Huset Ushers fall”

Rousseau, Jean Jacques. *Bekännelser*, book 1

Runefelt, Eva. ”Tolv år” and ”Avsked”, in *Hejdad tid*

Sapfo. poems (LK, TT)

Sofokles. *Konung Oidipus* (for example in LK)

Strindberg, August. *Inferno*

Tjechov, Anton. *Körsbärsträdgården* (VD)

Tranströmer, Tomas. *Sorgegondolen*

Zola, Émile. *Thérèse Raquin*