



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
Department of Media and Journalism

1MK175 Nyhetsvärdering och Mediekompentens, 7,5 högskolepoäng  
Media and News Literacy, 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Media and Communication

### **Subject Group**

Media and Communication Studies

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

GIN

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2017-01-17

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2017

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements and English B (Field-specific entry requirements 2/A2).

## Objectives

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

- explain basic media literacy theories, methods and concepts used to assess news.
- develop and use relevant critical criteria and skills, as to be able to distinguish between professional and non-professional media and news content
- to be able to articulate and discuss important aspects of news media literacy.

## Content

This course includes an introduction to media and news literacy, as well as the basic theories and methods used to assess news quality. The course will assist students to acquire skills as to be able to find their way through the information flow in the media and to critically evaluate media and news content. The course introduces news storytelling and the news creation process, basic journalism including objectivity and ethics. It also introduces methods for source checking and methods to distinguish information from propaganda. Furthermore, the course introduces the topic of facts versus commentaries.

## Type of Instruction

Lectures, seminars and workshops.

## Examination

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

The grade A is highest rating stage, the remaining ratings follows in descending order.

The grade E is the lowest grade to be approved. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as failed. Fx is not a grade and is only used when a student is allowed to complement her/his examination. The grade on the assignment determines the final grade for the course.

Examination is done through the examination forms report and seminar.

## Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course and the students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time. The evaluation is anonymous. The course evaluation is filed according to departmental regulations.

## Other

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.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Ashley, S., Maksl, A., & Craft, S. (2013). *Developing a news media literacy scale*. *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. (14 s)

Ashley, S., Poepsel, M., & Willis, E. (2013). *Media Literacy and News Credibility: Does knowledge of media ownership increase skepticism in news consumers?* *Journal of Media Literacy Education*. (3 s)

Celoria, D. (2013). *Critical Media Literacy: Enhance Democratization and Participation*. Retrieved from [http://conference.pixel-online.net/foe2013/common/download/Paper\\_pdf/339-ITL65-FP-Celoria-FOE2013.pdf](http://conference.pixel-online.net/foe2013/common/download/Paper_pdf/339-ITL65-FP-Celoria-FOE2013.pdf)

Dilevko, J. (1998). *Bibliographic instruction and mass media news literacy: A theoretical background*. *The Library Quarterly*. (343 s)

Gillmor, D (2008). *Principles for a New Media Literacy*. The Berkman Center for Internet & Society: Harvard University. Retrieved from <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1323889>

Hobbs, R. (2010). *Digital and media literacy: A plan of action*. The Aspen Institute

Hobbs, R., & Frost, R. (2003). *Measuring the acquisition of media-literacy skills*. *Reading research quarterly*. (25 s)

Mihailidis, P. (2011). *New Civic Voices & the Emerging Media Literacy Landscape*. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, (2 s).

Lewis, J. & Jhally, S. (1998). *The struggle over media literacy*. *Journal of Communication*, (11 s).

Livingstone, S. (2004). *Media literacy and the challenge of new information and communication technologies*. *Communication review*, 7(1), 3-14.

Schwarz, F. (2012). *Media Literacy and the news*. Windesheim School of Media in Zwolle, the Netherlands.

Toepfl, F. (2013). *Four facets of critical news literacy in a non-democratic regime: How young Russians navigate their news*. *European Journal of Communication* (?? s).

Vraga, E., Tully, M., Akin, H., & Rojas, H. (2012). *Modifying perceptions of hostility and credibility of news coverage of an environmental controversy through media literacy*. *Journalism* (?? s).