



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Media and Journalism

1MK178 Nyhetsvärdering och Mediekompetens, 7.5 credits
Media and News Literacy

Main field of study

Media and Communication

Subject Group

Media and Communication Studies

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2019-09-09

Revised 2022-05-13 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised prerequisites.
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2023

Prerequisites

General entry requirements + English 6.

Objectives

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

- account for basic theories concerning media and news literacy,
- apply methods and concepts used to evaluate news,
- identify various types of media content by using methods of source criticism,
- account for central aspects of the media landscape, media structures, and media and news literacy.

Content

This course includes an introduction to media and news literacy and source criticism, as well as basic theories and methods used to assess the quality of news. The course introduces news production and basic journalism. Issues concerning objectivity and ethics in journalism are discussed. The course also introduces methods for identifying various types of media content and methods for distinguishing between information and propaganda.

Type of Instruction

Lectures, seminars and workshops.

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 through written reports and oral presentations of assignments in seminars.

If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

For students who do not pass their first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examinations at the first and second levels at Linnaeus University.

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. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Credit 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: IMK175 Media and News Literacy.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Ashley, S. (the latest edition). "Media Literacy in Action? What Are We Teaching in Introductory College Media Studies Courses?", *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator* 70 (2): (161–173). 12 p.

Christ, W.G., and J. W. Potter. (the latest edition). "Media Literacy, Media Education, and the Academy." *Journal of Communication* 48 (1): (5–15). 10 p.

Curran, J., Iyengar, S., Lund, A.B., and Salovaara-Moring, I. (the latest edition). "Media System, Public Knowledge and Democracy: A Comparative Study." *European Journal of Communication* 24: (5–26). 21 p.

Dyson, R. A. (the latest edition). "Media literacy: Who Needs it and What Does It Mean?" *Gazette* 60 (2): (155–166). 11 p.

Hobbs, R. (the latest edition). "The Seven Great Debates in the Media Literacy Movement." In: *Journal of Communication* 48 (1): (16–32). 16 p.

"Debates and Challenges Facing New Literacies in the 21st century." (the latest edition). In: *International Handbook of Children, Media and Culture*, edited by S. Livingstone and K. Drotner, London: Sage. (431–447). 16 p.

Jolly, J. (the latest edition). "News Literacy vs. Media Literacy." In: *Columbia*

Journalism Review. Available at:
https://archives.cjr.org/news_literacy/news_literacy_vs_media_literac.php

Kellner, D. and Share, J. (the latest edition). Toward critical media literacy: Core concepts, debates, organizations, and policy. In: *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education* 26 (3): (369–386). 17 p.

Key Concepts of News Literacy (the latest edition). *Digital Resource Center*. Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University. Available at:
<https://digitalresource.center/key-concepts-news-literacy>

Kovach, B., and T. Rosenstiel. (the latest edition). *Blur: How to Know What's True in the Age of Information Overload*. New York: Bloomsbury. 240 p.

Lewis, J., and S. Jhally. (the latest edition). “The Struggle Over Media Literacy.” In: *Journal of Communication* 48 (1): Penguin Random House. (109–120). 11 p.

Malik, M., Cortesi, S., and Gasser, U. (the latest edition). “*The Challenges of Defining ‘News Literacy’*.” Berkman Center for Internet & Society. 13 p.

McChesney, R. (the latest edition). *Digital Disconnect: How Capitalism is Turning the Internet Against Democracy*. New York: New Press. 299 p.

Rosling, H., Rosling, O. and Rosling Rönnlund, A. (the latest edition). *Factfulness. Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World - and Why Things Are Better Than You Think*. New York: Flatiron Books. 341 p.

Stony Brook Center for News Literacy. Key Concepts of News Literacy. (the latest edition). Digital Resource Center. Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University. Available at: <https://digitalresource.center/key-concepts-news-literacy>