



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

4BO440 Teoretiska utvecklingslinjer i biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Theoretical Developments in Library and Information Science, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Library and Information Science

Subject Group

Library and Information Science

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2021-01-04

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

Prerequisites

90 credits in library and information science, including an independent project of 15 credits, or the equivalent.

Objectives

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

- account for the main subareas in library and information science, as well as for contexts that have contributed to the development of the discipline;
- explain the subject's central concepts and theoretical framework, as developed during the last 50 years;
- analyse how the theoretical development of library and information science relates to relevant societal and professional practices;
- analyse how the main theoretical orientations of the subject are represented in today's society and media climate.

Content

In this course, students discuss and analyse the theoretical development of central areas of library and information science over the last fifty years. Focus lies on how the theoretical basis of the subject manifests in the scientific ideals that characterise today's scientific practice of the subject. Specific focus lies on the ways in which library and information science may contribute to a critical discussion of relevant societal, media and professional development in present time.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of a series of lectures, along with text based seminars. Different distribution forms may occur with lectures as well as seminars.

Examination

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

The course is examined through a written assignment, which is subsequently discussed in a seminar.

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 in writing when the course starts. 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.

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.

Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly 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.

Other

Teaching may be conducted in English as well as in Swedish.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Andersen, Jack (Ed.) (the latest edition) *Genre theory in information studies*. Bingley: Emerald. (in selection, 70 p.)

Bates, Marcia (the latest edition) *Information and the information professions: selected works*, volume 1. Berkeley, CA: Ketchikan Press. (in selection, 100p.)

Buckland, Michael (the latest edition) *Information and society*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. (200 p.)

Buckland, Michael (the latest edition) "What kind of science can Information Science be?". *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, Vol. 63(1), 2012, 1-7 (6 p.)

Golub, Koraljka (the latest edition) *Subject access to information: an interdisciplinary approach*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries unlimited. (150 p.)

Gorman, Michael (the latest edition) *Our enduring values revisited: librarianship in an ever-changing world*. Chicago: American Library Association. (200 p.)

Haider, Jutta och Sundin, Olof (the latest edition), *Invisible search and online search engines: the ubiquity of search in everyday life*. London: Routledge. (150 p.)

Hansson, Joacim (the latest edition) *Educating librarians in the contemporary university: an essay on iSchools and emancipatory resilience in library and information science*. Sacramento, CA: Litwin Books/Library Juice Press. (180 p.)

Hjorland, Birger (the latest edition) "Library and information science: theory, practice and philosophical basis". *Information Processing and Management*, 36, 2000, 501-531. (30 p.)

Mai, Jens-Erik. (the latest edition) "The modernity of classification". *Journal of*

Documentation, 67(4), 2011, 710-730. (20 p.)

Nolin, Jan (the latest edition) "'Relevance' as a boundary concept: reconsidering early information retrieval". *Journal of Documentation*, 65 (5), 2009, 745-767. (22 p.)

Academic texts chosen in consultation with the teacher, ca 200 pages.