



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Film and Literature

4LI001 Komparativ litteraturvetenskap, 15 högskolepoäng

Comparative Literature, 15 credits

Main field of study

Comparative Literature

Subject Group

Comparative Literature

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2009-06-16

Revised 2015-11-25 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2016

Prerequisites

1-90 credits in Comparative Literature including an independent project of at least 15 credits, and Swedish B and English B.

Objectives

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

- account for important literary theories and methods,
- discuss and analyse literary texts from a comparative perspective,
- apply theoretically well-founded literary interpretations, in both speech and writing.

Module 1, Historical perspectives on comparative literature, 7.5 credits

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

- identify central concepts related to studies of comparative literature,
- account for the main historical trends in comparative literature,
- discuss and problematise the applicability and limitations of early studies of comparative literature using examples from fiction.

Module 2, Theories in comparative literature, 7.5 credits

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

- discuss and analyse literary texts from a contemporary, comparative perspective,
- account for the applicability and limitations of comparative literature.

Content

This course discusses comparative literature from historical and contemporary perspectives. What role has comparative analyses had in the past and what characterises the field today? By discussing literary and theoretical texts on themes such as world literature, globalisation, migration and hybrid identity, the course highlights the complex of problems related to different kinds of transcultural meetings.

Module 1 covers central concepts related to comparative literature and its main historical trends. The students practise accounting for and problematising the applicability and limitations of early studies of comparative literature using examples from fiction. In module 2 the students discuss and analyse literary texts from a contemporary, comparative perspective. General applicability and limitations of comparative literature are discussed.

Participation in seminars is compulsory.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of compulsory seminars.

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 intended learning outcomes.

Both modules are examined through written assignments and oral presentations.

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

Required reading

Module 1

Auerbach, Erich. 1998/1999. *Mimesis. Verklighetsframställningen i den västerländska litteraturen*. Translation by Ulrika Wallenström, preface by Arne Melberg. Stockholm: Bonnier. 595 p.

Fehrman, Carl. 1999. *Litteraturhistorien i Europaperspektiv. Från komparatism till kanon*. Lund: Absalon. 140 p. ISBN 9188396142

Petersson, Margareta. 2011. "Inledning" in *Världens litteraturer. En gränslös historia*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 10 p. (handout). ISBN 9789144055879

Additional texts related to Auerbach, ca 200 p.

Module 2

Alvstad, Cecilia. 2011. "Översättning" in *Världens litteraturer. En gränslös historia*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 10 p. (handout). ISBN 9789144055879

Damrosch, David. 2003. *What is world literature?*. Princeton N. J.: Princeton University Press. 324 p. ISBN 0691049858

Helgesson, Stefan. 2006. "Going global. An afterworld" in *Literary history: towards a global perspective*. vol 4. Berlin: W. de Gruyter. 18 p. (303–321).

Helgesson, Stefan. 2006. "Litteratur i rörelse" in *Världens litteraturer. En gränslös historia*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 10 p. (handout). ISBN 9789144055879

Pettersson, Anders. 2006. "Conclusion: a pragmatic perspective on genres and theories" in *Literary history: towards a global perspective*. vol. 2, Berlin: W. de Gruyter. 27 p. (279–305).

Pettersson, Anders. 2006. "Introduction: concepts of literature and transcultural literary history" in *Literary history: towards a global perspective*. vol. 1, Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 35 p. (1–35).

Saussy, Haun. 2006. *Comparative literature in an age of globalization*. Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press. 260 p. ISBN 0801883806

Gilgamesheposet: "han som såg djupet". 2001 or later edition. Nytolkning av Lennart Warring och Taina Kantola. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. 309 p.

Additional texts related to Damrosch, ca 200 p.