



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Film and Literature

4LI005 Vampyrer och makt. Konstruktionen av vampyren i fiktion och samhälle, 15 högskolepoäng

Vampires and Power. Constructing vampires in fiction and society, 15 credits

### **Main field of study**

Comparative Literature

### **Subject Group**

Comparative Literature

### **Level of classification**

Second Level

### **Progression**

A1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2010-12-08

Revised 2015-02-17 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2015

### **Prerequisites**

English A, Swedish B/Swedish 2B. , and 1–90 credits in Comparative Literature, including an independent project of at least 15 credits.

## Objectives

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

- account for the improvisational power function of vampires in folklore, myths and vampire fiction,
- critically analyse vampires in folklore, myths and vampire fiction,
- account for and apply social constructionist perspectives.

## Content

The course discusses vampires in folklore, myths and other fiction. Vampires are studied in relation to the cultural and societal contexts in which they have been created. The students conduct in-depth studies of theories and methods used in social constructivism. Vampires are also analysed on the basis of various theoretical perspectives of power. The students also have the opportunity to conduct further in-depth studies on a topic of their choice within the scope of the course.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of recorded and written lectures and presentations, as well as interviews with people working with vampire fiction.

## 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 expected learning outcomes must be achieved, and the student must demonstrate active participation on the online learning platform.

The course is examined through an independent project, in the form of an in-depth study of vampires in folklore, myths or fiction, on the basis of a theoretical perspective of power.

The study is presented in an essay. The essay should demonstrate clearly that the student has understood the required reading and the teaching of the course, and has the ability to use this knowledge in an analytical and reflecting manner.

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

### Non-fictional literature

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1991. *Kultur och kritik*. Daidalos. Gothenburg. 295 p. (selection) ISBN 91 86320599

Bronfen, Elisabeth. 1992. *Over Her Dead Body. Death, femininity and the aesthetic*. Manchester University Press. 460 p. (selection) ISBN 0415906601

Featherstone, Mike. 1994. *Kultur, kropp och konsumtion*. Eds. Thomas Johansson & Fredrik Miegel, Brutus Östlings Bokförlag Symposion. Stockholm. 143 p. ISBN 91 7139-2025

Foucault, Michel. 2002. *Sexualitetens historia 1. Viljan att veta*. Bokförlaget Daidalos. 160 p.

Gelder, Ken. 1994. *Reading the Vampire*. Routledge. London. 161 p. ISBN 0415 080126

Gilbert, Sandra & Gubar, Susan. 2000. (Second Edition). *The Madwoman in the Attic. The woman writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination*. Yale University Press. 719 p. (selection) ISBN 0300084587

Höglund, Anna. 2009. *Vampyrer. En kulturkritisk studie av den västerländska vampyrberättelsen från 1700-talet till 2000-talet*. 367 p. ISBN 9789176366837

McClelland, Bruce A. 2006. *Slayers and Their Vampires. A Cultural History of Killing the Dead*. The University of Michigan Press. 260 p. (selection) ISBN 047209923X

Wright, Dudley. (1914) 2006. *The Book of Vampires*. Dover Publications. Inc. 121 p. ISBN 048644998X

Additional articles relevant for the subject. Additional non-fictional texts chosen from the list of reference literature in consultation with the teacher. Ca 500 p.

### Fiction

Del Toro, Guillermo. 2008. *The Strain*. Harper Collins. 585 p. OR Del Toro, Guillermo, *Släktet*. Swedish translation by Anders Bellis. Bra Böcker. 466 p.

Lindqvist, Ajvide, John. (2004) 2008, *Låt den rätte komma in*. Ordfront Förlag AB. 416 p.

Romkey, Michael. 1996. *I, Vampire*. Fawcett. 435 p. OR Romkey, Michael. *Jag, en vampyr*. Danish translation by Bitten Posselt Langhede. Rosenkilde. 480 p.

Stoker, Bram, (1897) 2008. *Dracula*. Swedish translation by Maila Hämäläinen. h:ström Text & Kultur. 550 p. OR Stoker, Bram. *Dracula*. Any English edition of the original version.

Skal, David J. (ed) 2006. *Vampires. Encounters with the Undead*. In selection, ca 150200 p.

Additional fiction, TV series and films. Ca 1000 p. or the equivalent of TV series and films.