



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Film and Literature

4LI007 Seriemediet – intermediala och multimodala aspekter, 15 högskolepoäng

The comics medium – intermedial and multimodal aspects, 15 credits

Main field of study

Comparative Literature

Subject

Comparative Literature

Level

Second cycle

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2024-05-06.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2025.

Prerequisites

1-90 credits in a subject within the Humanities or Social sciences including a degree project of at least 15 credits, or equivalently. English 6 or equivalently.

Objectives

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

- master and independently apply advanced terminology and complex conceptualization within intermediality and multimodality,
- conduct both written and oral analyses of graphic novels with theoretical and methodological awareness,
- problematize relationships and interactions between the comics medium and

- other media and art forms,
- write and present their own adaptation analysis of a graphic novel.

Content

The course focuses on the comic medium as a form of expression, providing advanced theoretical knowledge from an intermedial and multimodal perspective. By exploring the aesthetic, formal, and narrative aspects of comics, the course offers an intermedial and multimodal framework for analysis. Through the examination of various comics and graphic novels, as well as research material, students learn to analyse and critically examine representations and mediations. The course particularly addresses transmediations and adaptations both from and to other media such as novels, films and videogames.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures and seminars through an online learning platform.

Examination

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

The course is examined through written assignments and oral presentations, group projects and seminars on zoom. In addition to this, there is an independent individual assignment where the student, in consultation with the supervisor, selects primary materials for an adaptation analysis. This assignment should clearly demonstrate that the student has assimilated the required course literature and has learned to apply relevant theoretical tools for analysis.

The grade of U means that the student has failed the course. The grade G is the lowest grade and grade VG is the highest grade for passing the course. Grading criteria for the grades G and VG will be specified when the course starts.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to adapt the exam or to let the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

Other Information

The course is elective in the course offerings for the master's programme *Media Cultures: Intermedial and Multimodal Studies* during term 2, and may also be offered in other master's programmes.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Auster, Paul (1987). *City of glass*. Part 1 of *The New York Trilogy*. 203 p. Any edition.

Auster, Paul (2004). *City of glass: the graphic novel*. Art & adaptation Paul Karazik & David Mazzuchelli. 129 p. Any edition.

Bruhn, Jørgen & Schirrmacher, Beate (Eds.) (2022). *Intermedial studies: an introduction to meaning across media*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. Appr. 50 p. ISBN: 9781032004662 (E-book)

Cohn, Neil (2013). *The visual language of comics: introduction to the structure and cognition of sequential images*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. Appr. 50 p. ISBN: 9781441170545 (E-book)

Gangnes, Madeleine B., Murray, Christopher, & Round, Julia (Eds.) (2024). *Multimodal comics: The evolution of comics studies*. Bristol: Intellect. 301 p. ISBN: 9781789389487 (E-book)

Gavaler, Chris (2022). *The comics form: the art of sequenced images*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. 244 p. ISBN: 9781350245952 (E-book)

Kukkonen, Karin (2013). *Studying comics and graphic novels*. Chichester: Wiley Blackwell. Appr. 190 p. ISBN: 9781118499870 (E-book)

Miodrag, Hannah (2013). *Comics and language reimagining critical discourse on the form*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi. 281 p. ISBN: 9781621039556 (E-book)

Storskog, Camilla (2023). *Afterlives: Scandinavian classics as comic art adaptation*. Lund: Nordic Academic Press. 254 p. ISBN: 9189361121 (E-book)

Additional material will be provided at the beginning of the course on the learning platform. Approx. 1000 pages or equivalently.

Optional readings

Atwood, Margaret (2019). *The handmaid's tale: the graphic novel*. Art & adaptation Renée Nault. 240 p. Any edition.

Gaiman, Neil, *The Sandman* (2018). Volume 1. Preludes & nocturnes. 144 p. Any edition.

Ware, Chris (2003). *Jimmy Corrigan: the smartest kid on earth*. 380 p. Any edition.