



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Comparative Literature

Syllabus

College Year

Course Code:	COGA30
Course Title:	College Year <i>Collegeåret</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-03-08, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

College Year admission

Learning Outcomes

The course includes four modules.

Module 1 Academic Writing, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. produce basic academic texts in relevant text genres,
2. perform literature searches in academic databases,
3. apply basic principles of source criticism and academic referencing, and
4. grasp the content of and present scholarly sources orally and in writing.

Module 2 Theory of Science, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of basic concepts and approaches in epistemology, theory of science, philosophy of science, history of science, and research methods,
2. reflect upon basic perspectives on research ethics, and
3. reflect upon gender studies perspectives.

Module 3 Cultural Studies, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. give an account of basic perspectives on language as a vehicle for culture,
2. give an account of basic theories and issues in cultural studies, and
3. analyse cultural phenomena in literature, film, television, art, and media at a basic level.

Module 4 Independent project, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. plan and complete an independent research project based on a well-defined research question or thesis,
2. search and select relevant academic sources and apply the basic principles of source criticism,
3. apply academic referencing conventions,
4. present the project in writing in a clear and coherent manner, and
5. review the work of others in a seminar.

Content

The aim of the course is that students acquire basic insights into academic studies and theory of science, linguistics, and cultural studies perspectives and procedures. Through practising different components and forms of examination involved in studying at university, students learn what is required in higher education and prepare for further studies. The College Year comprises 40 weeks (one academic year) of which 20 weeks are at upper secondary school level (eligibility programmes in municipal adult education or Folk High School) and 20 weeks at university level at Karlstad University. At the university, the students study four modules (7.5 ECTS cr each) one day a week. Students who complete the College Year satisfactorily are offered admission to a number of degree programmes and courses at Karlstad University.

The course includes four modules.

Module 1 Academic Writing, 7.5 ECTS cr

This module introduces the students to basic aspects of academic writing, through exercises in information retrieval, source criticism, the reading of scholarly sources, and common forms of academic text production.

Module 2 Theory of Science, 7.5 ECTS cr

This module provides the students with an overview of theory of science concepts and the history of science. A general theoretical survey of scholarly perspectives is included, as well as specific examples of issues relevant to the humanities. In addition, the module includes a discussion of gender perspectives in scholarly contexts.

Module 3 Cultural Studies, 7.5 ECTS cr

This module offers a broad introduction to different aspects of cultural studies. The function of language as a vehicle for culture is treated, as well as specific examples of cultural phenomena in literature, film, art, television, and media, discussed and analysed in seminars.

Module 4 Independent project, 7.5 ECTS cr

In this module, students complete an independent project in accordance with instructions and apply the

academic writing conventions covered in Module 1 in practice. Student formulate a research question or thesis independently, and find relevant sources for their project. The independent project is written under supervision and discussed in a seminar.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1 Academic Writing, 7.5 ECTS cr

Learning outcomes 1-4: Assessment is based on individual written assignments.

Learning outcome 4: Assessment is also based on an individual oral presentation.

Module 2 Theory of Science, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on individual written assignments and a written exam.

Module 3 Cultural Studies, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on individual written assignments.

Module 4 Independent project, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on an individual independent project, discussed in a final seminar, which also includes peer review of the work of other students.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The course COGA30 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the courses COGA10 and COGA20.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.