



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

Theoretical perspectives on literary and cultural negotiations

Course Code:

ENAL08

Course Title:

Theoretical perspectives on literary and cultural negotiations

Teoretiska perspektiv på litterära och kulturella förhandlingar

Credits:

15

Degree Level:

Master's level

Progressive

Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Specialisation:

ENA (English)

Major Field of Study:

ENA (English)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2025-09-01, and is valid from the Spring semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level in one of the main fields of study English, Comparative Literature, or Film Studies, and upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

1. summarise and evaluate texts on literary and cultural theory,
2. give an account of, assess, and reason critically about literary and cultural theories,
3. develop their own text-based, theoretical arguments about literature and culture, and

4. express themselves well in English in terms of style and structure and present convincing analyses.

Content

The course introduces theories and research about the relationship between literature, broadly defined, and society, with a special focus on the role of literature in cultural negotiations accompanying societal change. The relative autonomy of literature in relation to society is studied in different geographical and historical contexts. The four themes of the course focus on the role of literature in negotiations about the world, subjectivity, the past and the future, and the literary marketplace.

The course includes extensive reading of theoretical texts, discussion and analysis of those texts in seminars, and oral and written assignments.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1-4 are assessed based on individual written hand-in assignments.

Learning outcomes 1-3 are also assessed based on individual oral presentations.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

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