



COURSE PLAN

Approved 20 August 2026
IKGA09/VT2027

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Intercultural love

Interkulturell kärlek

Course code: IKGA09

Credits: 7.5

Education level: First cycle

Progressive specialisation: First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Main field of study: INT (Intercultural Studies)

Approved by

Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences, 20 August 2026

Effective from

Spring semester 2027

Entry requirements

General entry requirements.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. give a critical account of concepts, theories and intellectual traditions concerning the understanding of love in relation to globalisation and migration,
2. compare and contrast ideas and practices relating to love in various cultural contexts, and
3. apply key theoretical perspectives on love in intercultural case studies.

Content

The course explores how love is understood and socially organised in different parts of the world. The focus is on the impact that globalisation and migration have had on such understandings over recent decades. Students explore how love is practised across borders (for example, through digital communication), what happens to love when people cross borders (for example, through migration), and how love is reshaped and adapted to new contexts when differences in culture, language, generation, ethnicity, race, religion, gender, class and other identities are involved.

The course also addresses intercultural love by enabling students to examine examples of intimacy between romantic partners, parents and children, and friends. Students engage with the concept of intercultural love in both private settings (for example, within the home) and public contexts involving formal and informal forms of social interaction (for example, in educational institutions, places of work and leisure settings), as well as within national and international politics (in relation to, for example, migration, marriage and adoption).

The course provides students with both practical tools (applications for thinking about and practising love in everyday situations) and theoretical perspectives (ideas, concepts and intellectual traditions relating to intimacy) to support their understanding of love in intercultural contexts.

Reading list

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed based on individual written assignments and oral seminar discussions.

Learning outcome 3 is assessed based on an independent written assignment.

If a student has been granted study support by Karlstad University due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to offer an adapted examination or allow the student to complete the examination through alternative means.

Grades

One of the grades Pass with 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's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.