



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Visual Art

Syllabus

Visual Arts for Teaching in grades 4-6

Course Code:	KBGAG1
Course Title:	Visual Arts for Teaching in grades 4-6 <i>Bild för grundlärare i årskurs 4-6</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-09-06, and is valid from the Spring semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

1-60 ECTS credits completed in the Primary Education Programme, grades 4-6

Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is that students acquire basic knowledge of the theory and teaching methodology of Visual Arts for teaching the subject in primary school grades 4-6. Through studying theory and completing practical exercises, students are expected to develop understanding of and skills in the subject in relation to subject-specific education and visual arts-related pedagogical perspectives.

Module 1: Subject theory and pedagogy of Visual Arts (7.5 ECTS cr)

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

1. define and give an account of some of the traditions and conceptions of visual arts in a historical,

cultural and pedagogical context,

2. give an account of theories of children's image creation and communicative image development
give an account of subject-specific terms and concepts and apply these in presenting, analysing and interpreting their own and others' images,
3. give an account of methods for talking about images with pupils,
4. use the basic materials, tools and methods of visual arts to plan and complete two-dimensional projects with handicraft techniques,
5. demonstrate understanding of and evaluate image creation as a process and product in the perspective of visual arts pedagogy, and
6. make decisions based in subject-specific education to plan thematic image activities and relate these to the primary school curriculum in the Visual Arts subject.

Module 2: Image, space and visual thinking (7.5 ECTS cr)

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

1. plan, carry out, document and present a pedagogical project in the area of space and environment creation based on subject-specific theories and models,
give an account of central concepts and some expressions in contemporary art, design and architecture,
2. use basic tools, materials, and methods to plan, develop, and produce images and three-dimensional works,
3. use basic drawing techniques as a tool in generating ideas and solving problems,
4. describe how environmental and sustainable development issues can be related to visual arts teaching, and
5. reflect upon and argue for subject-specific theoretical and methodological choices in relation to course components and curricula for the Visual Arts subject.

Module 3: Visual arts communication and visual culture (7.5 ECTS cr)

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

1. give an account of and apply basic concepts, theories, and methods for analysing and interpreting images in different media and contexts,
2. use basic tools, materials, and both analogue and digital techniques to produce, edit, and present images with different messages in different contexts,
3. reflect on visual communication and visual culture in relation to issues of identity, gender equality, democracy, and diversity, and
4. discuss and problematise methods of supporting and developing pupils' visual competence on the basis of subject-specific pedagogical choices.

Module 4: Product and process in Visual Arts teaching (7.5 ECTS cr)

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

1. plan and argue for a thematic image project in a delimited area on the basis of different visual art theories and subject-specific teaching methodological considerations,
2. problematise, justify, and critically review subject theories and subject-specific pedagogical choices in relation to course components, current curricula, and teaching in the Visual Arts subject,
3. demonstrate understanding of the portfolio method and pedagogical documentation as tools for supporting, developing, and evaluating pupils' progress in Visual Arts, and
4. describe and reflect upon assessment problems in relation to curricula and current research on assessment,

Content

The course comprises four modules. All modules include literature study, lectures, seminars, group exercises, workshops, and oral, written, and practical assignments, individually and in groups.

Module 1: Subject theory and pedagogy of Visual Arts (7.5 ECTS cr)

The module provides an overview of the history and development of the visual arts in education. Different pedagogical approaches in teaching visual arts are problematised and the curriculum for grades 4-6 are discussed and analysed in terms of content. The module is based on examples from different art and visual art traditions that provide a basis for discussion, interpretation, and expression. The basics of two-dimensional image production are treated in terms of process and product. Students work in laborative and explorative processes with handicraft techniques, materials, and methods and learn to use colours, image elements, and composition to create different visual expressions. Digital tools and their use in creative work and as pedagogical support are treated. Methods for conversation, reflection, and documentation regarding process and product are treated and applied in relation to their own and other people's creative work.

Module 2: Image, space and visual thinking (7.5 ECTS cr)

Aspects of space and environment representation are treated and problematised in relation to three-dimensional art with explorative and problem-solving character. Choosing materials for three-dimensional art is discussed from environmental and sustainability perspectives. Basic drawing techniques and space creating methods in images are treated as well as the importance of drawing in visual thinking and function in creative processes. Digital techniques are used as tools for image editing, documentation, and presentation regarding process and product in a thematic art project. Subject-specific teaching perspectives are presented and discussed throughout the module in relation to course content.

Module 3: Image communication and visual culture (7.5 ECTS cr)

The module introduces and deals with visual culture, visual communication, and image narration in relation to children's image development, meaning-creation, and learning. Different methods to analyse, interpret, and critically review image expression for different purposes in various media are treated and applied in exercises and assignments. Image creation is practiced in the form of image narration with different communicative and functional aims with the help of digital and analogue tools. Methods for documenting and presenting visual art works with the help of different tools and digital techniques are applied. Theoretical and subject-specific teaching perspectives are related to issues of identity, democracy, and diversity.

Module 4: Product and process in Visual Arts teaching (7.5 ECTS cr)

The module deals with the primary school curriculum for the Visual Arts subject. Theories and methods for learning, grading, and assessment in Visual Arts based on the criteria of product and process assessment are treated and problematised. Students develop a proposal applying experiences from previous modules to design, implement, and document a thematic image project for pupils in grades 4-6. The project must have a clear subject-specific teaching perspective and reflect subject integration and approaches based on current curricula. Students have the opportunity to explore and reflect upon how viewing, representation, reflection, and communication can interact in organising, conducting, and evaluating teaching in Visual Arts.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1: Subject theory and pedagogy of Visual Arts (7.5 ECTS cr)

Learning outcomes 1, 2, and 3: Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam.

Learning outcomes 4, 5, and 6: Assessment is based on an oral presentation and an individual written take-home exam with image documentation of the creative process.

Module 2: Image, space and visual thinking (7.5 ECTS cr)

Learning outcomes 1, 2, 4, and 5: Assessment is based on an oral presentation and an individual written report with image documentation of the creative process.

Learning outcome 3: Assessment is based on laborative drawing and an individual written take-home exam.

Module 3: Image communication and visual culture (7.5 ECTS cr)

Learning outcome 1: Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam.

Learning outcomes 2, 3, and 4: Assessment is based on an oral presentation and an individual written take-home exam with image documentation of the creative process.

Module 4: Product and process in visual arts teaching (7.5 ECTS cr)

Learning outcomes 1, 2, and 3: Assessment is based on an oral presentation and an individual written report with image documentation of the creative process.

Learning outcome 4: Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to special pedagogical 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.