



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Cultural Studies

# Syllabus

## History of Ideas I: The Swedish History of Ideas

<b>Course Code:</b>	KVGH14
<b>Course Title:</b>	History of Ideas I: The Swedish History of Ideas <i>Idéhistoria I: Den svenska idéhistorien</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	7.5
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

**Major Field of Study:**  
KSU (Cultural Studies)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-09-03, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

General admission requirements

### Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- outline ideas and cultural traditions, social structures, the life of learning, the building of the Swedish welfare state ('folkhemmet'), development of gender equality policies and political, social and cultural movements, ideologies and debates in Sweden from the 19th century until today,

Competence and skills

- identify the use of concepts, ideas, and structures of thought in primary sources and place them in an intellectual history context,
- formulate and delimit research-related problems and seek relevant information to address them,

#### Judgement and approach

- apply history of ideas approaches through comparing and contextualising different ideas and structures of thought in the past as well as in relation to the present,
- relate Swedish identity and self-image to a Nordic, European and global context and reflect on these from historical and theoretical perspectives,
- relate to Swedish historiography of ideas in terms of relevant theoretical concepts and reflect on it from different power perspectives, and
- assess and discuss the research situation in the field of Swedish history of ideas.

#### **Content**

The course provides a historical survey of ideas, culture, and science in Sweden in its European context with a focus on the 19th and 20th centuries. There is a special focus on the emergence of modern Sweden, which includes social movements, expansion of education and science systems, democratisation, the welfare state ("folkhemmet"), political and cultural ideologies and debates, equality policy, and Sweden in the globalised world. The module is research-based and reverberates with issues related to historical consciousness and historical culture, historiography, and the use of history.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, presenting overviews of essential content, and mandatory seminars on course content in the light of course literature, in which students discuss their understanding orally and in writing.

#### **Reading List**

See separate document.

#### **Examination**

Assessment is based on a take-home exam and active participation in mandatory seminars where short individual hand-in assignments are presented and discussed.

The examiner may decide that a student who is very close to a passing grade can complete a supplementary assignment to receive a passing grade for a specific examination. If this is a possibility, the students must be informed in writing no later than the start of the course, and the examiner must specify when and how such a supplementary assignment may be permitted.

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.