



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Cultural Studies

Syllabus

History of Ideas II: Theoretical and Methodological Traditions of the History of Ideas

Course Code:	KVGH21
Course Title:	History of Ideas II: Theoretical and Methodological Traditions of the History of Ideas <i>Idéhistoria II: Idéhistoriens teori- och metodtraditioner</i>
Credits:	7.5
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:
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 Spring semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

History of Ideas I (30 ECTS credits) with 22.5 ECTS credits completed, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of the main features of the emergence, development, and identity of the discipline History of Ideas in Sweden,
- give an account of some key theories in the contemporary discipline History of Ideas,

- outline how theory, method, concepts, and source criticism can be used in research in the field of History of Ideas,

Competence and skills

- formulate their own research questions against the background of different History of Ideas traditions,
- assess, select, and apply theoretical and methodological approaches to answer their own research questions, and

Judgement and approach

- reflect on the traditional Swedish History of Ideas in terms of class, gender, culture, ethnicity, and accessibility.

Content

The aim of the course is to introduce the distinguishing character of History of Ideas while providing methodological tools to read and interpret texts in the field as a basis and preparation for an independent project. The module has two main themes. The first one concerns the special conditions of History of Ideas, its traditional identity and recent applications, different views on its emergence and development and theoretical problems associated with research in the field. The second theme comprises a study of some current interpretation theories and a survey of collection and analysis methods in the field, including source criticism, information retrieval, and the handling of archived material.

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

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a take-home exam, an individual PM, and active seminar participation.

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.