



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Cultural Studies

Syllabus

Art History and Visual Studies I

Course Code:	KVGK30
Course Title:	Art History and Visual Studies I <i>Konst- och bildvetenskap I</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	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 2018-02-20, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2018 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements

Learning Outcomes

Module 1 Introduction to Art History and Visual Studies, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of basic theories and methods in art history and visual studies,
- apply basic skills in visual and architectural analysis, and
- discuss the basic principles of visual analysis and art historiography in terms of theoretical, methodological and critical aspects.

Module 2 Early Visual and Architectural Cultures, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of central aspects of European and non-European visual and architectural cultures from the prehistoric age to the Medieval period,
- give examples of how European and non-European cultures were influenced by other cultures in prehistoric and Medieval periods, and
- discuss how visual and architectural designs reflect power, class, gender, ethnicity and religious conceptions in the prehistoric and Medieval periods,.

Module 3 From the Renaissance to Romanticism and Realism, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of central aspects of Western visual and architectural cultures in the 15-19th centuries,
- give examples of how new media are used in art and visual cultures in the 15-19th centuries,
- give examples of how Western visual and architectural cultures in the 15-19th centuries display

influences from other cultures, and

- discuss how visual and architectural designs reflect power, class, gender, ethnicity and religious conceptions in the 15-19th centuries.

Module 4 Modernism, Postmodernism and Contemporary Art, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of central aspects of modernism, postmodernism and contemporary trends in visual art, architecture and design in the 20-21st centuries,
- give examples of how new media are used in art and visual cultures in the 20-21st centuries,
- give examples of how Western visual art and architectural cultures in the 20-21st centuries display influence from other cultures,
- give examples of how postcolonial criticism and globalisation have affected art in the 20-21st centuries, and
- discuss how visual and architectural designs reflect power, class, gender, ethnicity and religious conceptions in the 20- 21st centuries.

Content

The course comprises four modules.

Module 1 Introduction to Art History and Visual Studies, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module introduces the history of art and visual studies, the theories and methods of the field and exercises in visual analysis and interpretation.

Module 2 Early Visual and Architectural Cultures, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module identifies visual remnants and fragments of prehistoric visual and architectural cultures and studies of the expressions of the major world cultures and religions as manifested in visual art, architecture and the built environment in the prehistoric to the medieval period.

Module 3 From the Renaissance to Romanticism and Realism, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module centres on Western visual and architectural cultures against the background of political and social changes and global influences in the 15-19th centuries. In addition, the emerging design phenomenon is studied along with the prevalence of mass media images, the importance of the new graphic technology and the architectural design of new public institutions, and discussions of visual and architectural styles from a power, class, gender and ethnicity perspective.

Module 4 Modernism, Postmodernism and Contemporary Art, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module comprises studies of visual art, architecture and design in the 20-21st centuries in terms of the concepts of modernity, modernism, postmodernism and globalisation. New media use of art and visual culture in Western 20-21st century culture is studied as well as the influence of non-European cultures, and how visual and architectural 20-21st century styles reflect power, class, gender and ethnicity.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on:

Module 1: individual hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

Module 2: individual hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

Module 3: individual hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

Module 4: individual hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

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.

The courses KVGK19, KVGK29, KVGK31 and KVGK32 cannot be included in the same degree programme as KVGK30.

Elective course for the Culture, Policy and Management Programme HGKVP.