



Faculty of Arts and Education  
Comparative Literature

### Syllabus

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Education on 31 May 2011, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2011 at Karlstad University.

**Course Code:** LVGAF3

**Comparative Literature, 30 ECTS Credits**

**(Litteraturvetenskap, 30 Swedish credit points)**

**Degree Level:** Bachelor

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

#### Language of Instruction

Swedish

#### Prerequisites

General admission requirements

#### Major Field of Study

LIA (Comparative Literature)

#### Learning Outcomes

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

Module 1 Literary Theory, Methods and Practice 7.5 ECTS cr

- define, explain and apply basic literary analytical methods, terminology and concepts to texts, genres and aesthetic expressions,
- give an account of some basic research questions in literary study and some theories on the function and value of literature in an individual, social and cultural perspective,
- write a linguistically correct argumentative and analytical text.

Module 2 Survey of the History of Western Literature 7.5 ECTS cr

- give an account of and critically review the presentation of some of the main features in the history of Western literature,
- define, explain and apply basic terminology and concepts in literary history,
- demonstrate ability to critically review and problematize literary selection and categorisation principles,
- write a linguistically correct argumentative and analytical text.

Module 3 Perspectives on Literature 7.5 ECTS cr

- explain some literary history and cultural analytical terms and concepts,
- describe different types of coexistence of texts in space and time and reflect on their relationships,
- write a linguistically correct argumentative and analytical text and perform an informal, correct and rhetorically conscious oral presentation.

Module 4 Reading Strategies and Contemporary Fiction 7.5 ECTS cr

- give an account of some characteristic features of contemporary fiction,

- problematize Western literature in relation to the concept "world literature",
- give an account of and apply some theories on the relation between writer, text, reader and contexts,
- write a linguistically correct argumentative and analytical text.

## Content and Form of Instruction

Module 1 Literary Theory, Methods and Practice introduces literary theory and method, literary analysis and interpretation as well as the history of poetics and literature teaching methodology.

Module 2 Survey of the History of Western Literature surveys and critically reviews the history of literature till 1900.

Module 3 Perspectives on Literature establishes a tentative and experimental approach to 20th century literature through adopting a number of perspectives.

Module 4 Reading Strategies and Contemporary Fiction focuses on fiction with an emphasis on non-Western literature. Theoretical perspectives on the relation between writer, text, reader and contexts are treated. In addition, some examples of critical and analytical discourses on literature are studied.

## Reading List

See separate document.

## Examination

Module 1 Literary Theory, Methods and Practice: assessment is based on written individual exams.

Module 2 Survey of the History of Western Literature: assessment is based on a written individual exam and on hand-in assignments and seminars.

Module 3 Perspectives on Literature: assessment is based on oral (or written in net-based distance education) group reports and on written individual exams.

Module 4 Reading Strategies and Contemporary Fiction: assessment is based on written individual exams and on seminars.

The number of examination opportunities per examination is limited to five.

## 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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

## Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

## Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

The course LVGAF3 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the courses LVGBLS, LPGBLU, LPGBGL, LVGBF1, LVGBF2, LVGAF2, LVGA10, LVGA11, and LVGA12.

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.

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