



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Media and Communication Studies

Syllabus

Introduction to geomeia studies

Course Code:	MKA100
Course Title:	Introduction to geomeia studies <i>Introduktion till geomeiastudier</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:

KGA (Human Geography)

MKA (Media and Communication Studies)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-02-22, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits of Human Geography or Media and Communication Studies, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level and a degree project/essay of at least 15 ECTS credits at the advanced level, or equivalent, plus upper secondary school level English B/6.

Learning Outcomes

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

- give an account of and compare key concepts and theories in media and communication studies and human geography,
- give an account of the development of geomeia studies as a field of research,
- give an account of the ontological and epistemological foundations of geomeia studies,

- compare and evaluate various theoretical perspectives of geomeia studies in relation to developments in society,
- identify and reflect critically on current theoretical and empirical issues in geomeia studies,
- apply relevant theoretical perspectives when analysing research topics in geomeia studies, and
- plan, conduct, and analyse the results of a literature review.

Content

The course provides a common knowledge base for students from different subjects and prepares them for later courses and studies. The course introduces key concepts and theories in the main areas of human geography and media and communication studies, and an overview of the development, main features, and current research topics and debates of geomeia research. Media and communication are discussed in terms of representations, institutions, and infrastructures related to various human geography conceptualisations of time, space, place, and mobility. In this way, the course content shows how geomeia combines research traditions and epistemologies that have been separate historically. The course also includes a critical introduction to the recent transformations of technology and society that underpin the "spatial turn" in media research and the "communicative turn" in human geography. Students practise identifying research topics in media and communication geography, perform critical analyses of current social issues, and relate such issues to general theoretical contexts.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on participation in seminars and individual written hand-in assignments.

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.