Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Media and Communication Studies

Syllabus

Specialisation course 1: Geomedia, culture, and everyday life

Course Code:	MKA101
Course Title:	Specialisation course 1: Geomedia, culture, and everyday life
	Specialiseringskurs 1: Geomedia, kultur och vardagsliv
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:
- explain the impetus, logic, and impact of mediatisation,
- explain basic social science perspectives on culture and everyday life,
- give an account of the relation between culture and everyday life on the one hand and spatiality and

moblity on the other, as well as the influence of media on this relation,
- give an account of methods and methodological problems related to studies of the mediatisation of culture and everyday life,
- analyse mediatisation processes in physical and digital spaces on the basis of relevant theories,
- analyse mobility and mobile media in relation to culture and everyday life on the basis of relevant theories,
- analyse potential social consequences of the mediatisation of culture and everyday life on the basis of relevant theories, and
- plan, conduct, and analyse the results of a study of the mediatisation of culture and everyday life in relation to spatiality and mobility.

Content
The course focuses on the mediatisation of culture and everyday life in relation to spatiality and mobility. Students are provided with tools for understanding how media shape our everyday lives and the spaces where they are lived, but also how our daily media use is determined by the specific properties of these spaces. Examples of spaces range from our workplaces, homes, and residential areas to public transport, shops, gyms, and social media. Students practise analysing the consequences of mediatisation in terms of social categories such as class, gender, and ethnicity. Special emphasis is placed on the increasing significance of media for working life and the social consequences of this development, including for instance blurred boundaries between work and leisure, the growing mobility of work, new forms of work, labour markets, and workplaces, and new forms of control and surveillance. The course also covers methodology relevant for the area of study and prepares students for the planning, documentation, realisation, and analysis of a limited study of the mediatisation of culture and everyday life in relation to spatiality and mobility.

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.