



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Media and Communication Studies

# Syllabus

## Geomedia studies in practice

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| <b>Course Code:</b>                | MKA200  |
| <b>Course Title:</b>               | Geomedia studies in practice<br><i>Geomediastudier i praktiken</i>  |
| <b>Credits:</b>                    | 15  |
| <b>Degree Level:</b>               | Master's level  |
| <b>Progressive Specialisation:</b> | Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F) |

### 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 2019-08-26, and is valid from the Spring semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

15 ECTS credits completed in the courses MKA100 Introduction to Geomedia Studies (7.5 ECTS credits), MKA101 Specialisation course 1: Geomedia, culture and everyday Life (7.5 ECTS credits), MKA102 Specialisation 2: Geomedia, public opinion and the public sphere (7.5 ECTS credits), and MKA103 Specialisation course 3: Geomedia, spatial planning and mobility (7.5 ECTS credits), or equivalent.

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

- give an account of the epistemological and methodological basics of Geomedia Studies,
- map and compare current epistemological and methodological paradigms in Geomedia Studies,

- critically evaluate methods of relevance for Geomedia Studies,
- formulate theoretically motivated Geomedia research questions suitable for empirical investigations,
- create and implement a research design which involves field study, and
- analyse and problematise the intersected formation of media, location, and society, with a particular attention to site-specific power structures.

### **Content**

The course contributes to an increased understanding of the interplay between media, location, and society, as well as different research methods that can be used to study such interplay. Against the background of historical and contemporary perspectives, students identify, map out, and compare epistemological and methodological paradigms used in current Geomedia research. Students also practise understanding, selecting, applying, and evaluating methods of relevance to Geomedia Studies. The coursework includes the creation and implementation of a research design that involves field study. The course offers an organised excursion in Sweden or abroad, during which students have the opportunity to do fieldwork. The excursion is optional, and alternative sites for field study can be selected in consultation with the teacher. Any travel costs incurred in connection with fieldwork are paid by the student.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment is based on a group project presented in a written report, active participation in seminars, and individual written hand-in assignments.

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.