



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Media and Communication Studies

# Syllabus

## Two-year Master Thesis in Geomedia Studies

<b>Course Code:</b>	MKA400
<b>Course Title:</b>	Two-year Master Thesis in Geomedia Studies <i>Masteruppsats i geomediastudier</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Master's level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits) (A2E)

**Major Field of Study:**  
MKA (Media and Communication Studies)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2020-06-12, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

Degree of Bachelor with at least 90 ECTS credits completed in the main field of study Human Geography or Media and Communication Studies, or equivalent (for instance Tourism Studies, Spatial and Social Planning, or Film Studies), including a degree project at the progressive specialisation level worth at least 15 ECTS credits, or equivalent, English B/6, and 60 ECTS credits of completed courses as follows:

MKA100 Introduction to Geomedia Studies, 7.5 ECTS credits

MKA101 Specialisation course 1: Geomedia, Culture, and Everyday Life, 7.5 ECTS credits

MKA102 Specialisation course 2: Geomedia, Public Opinion, and the Public Sphere, 7.5 ECTS credits

MKA103 Specialisation course 3: Geomedia, Spatial Planning, and Mobility, 7.5 ECTS credits

MKA200 Geomedia Studies in Practice, 15 ECTS credits

In addition to the above courses, 15 ECTS credits completed at the second cycle level in Media and Communication Studies or Human Geography.

## **Learning Outcomes**

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

- independently identify and formulate complex research questions in Geomedia Studies,
- critically and with sophistication integrate theory, method, and data of relevance for Geomedia Studies,
- systematically organise and complete a research project which promotes an in-depth understanding of contemporary phenomena in Geomedia Studies, within given time limits,
- present and argue for relevant research conclusions, orally and in writing,
- give an account of and observe current ethical principles for Geomedia research projects, and
- identify needs for future research in Geomedia Studies.

## **Content**

The Master thesis comprises 30 ECTS credits and takes the form of an academic project which is both theoretical and empirical. Students investigate a problem relevant for the academic field of research Geomedia Studies, and complete an independent theoretical and empirical research project (which may include elements of production) under supervision. The process offers students advanced research competence related to Geomedia Studies, and insight into problem formulation and work processes in the subject area. The thesis constitutes an exercise in managing a research project from original idea to completion in the shape of an academic essay or essay/project text.

Supervision is provided for the duration of the course. Reregistered students are only offered supervision if circumstances permit.

## **Reading List**

See separate document.

## **Examination**

Assessment is based on an independent degree project presented and discussed in mandatory seminars, and on peer review of the projects of others.

The number of assessment opportunities for the Master thesis is limited to five.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study 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.