



SGR019F Specialisation in Critical Discourse Studies: from canonic texts to current insights in the analysis of social platforms, 7.5 credits, third cycle

The course was established by the board of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Lund University on 9 June 2022 and the course syllabus was approved by the Research Studies Council on 21 September 2022.

The syllabus is valid from spring semester 2023.

A. General information

This is an elective interdisciplinary third-cycle course in social sciences offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences. The language of instruction is English.

B. Learning outcomes

On completion the course, the student shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for strengths and limitations in critical discourse studies
- reflect critically on critical discourse studies as a qualitative research method within social sciences
- account for the forming of suitable research questions and tie them to analytical strategies for practical and theoretical problems specific to critical discourse studies
- demonstrate understanding of how a methodologically rigorous and transparent critical discourse analysis

handles issues of validity, reliability and generalisability within the social sciences

- understand the ethical consequences of a critical discourse study.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to produce, analyse and present conclusions rooted in critical discourse studies with the help of different types of empirical material (offline and online discourses)
- demonstrate the ability to evaluate empirical statements within critical discourse studies that are specific to different research questions, especially those that lie at the intersection between offline and online discourses.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate a critical judgement, including the potential and limitations of critical discourse studies within social sciences
- demonstrate a reflexive approach to research questions specific to critical discourse studies within social sciences
- demonstrate an ethical approach to research questions specific to critical discourse studies within social sciences

C. Course content

The course provides students with an in-depth understanding of different methodological approaches within critical discourse studies. The course reflects on both canonical works that have a well-established position in various social sciences, and recent developments in the analysis of social platforms. Particular emphasis is placed on exploring the ethical implications of using critical discourse studies in the student's own work. The course is designed to appeal to students from a variety of social science backgrounds, enabling the sharing of alternative perspectives on research questions related to critical discourse studies.

D. Course design

Teaching consists of lectures and workshops. Different types of teaching occur within the different components. The lectures introduce and discuss the course literature. Their aim is to provide students with an in-depth understanding of different ways to apply critical discourse studies. The workshop seminars are practice-oriented, to which students bring pre-prepared analysis exercises to discuss the lecturer. The analysis exercises for the workshop focus on the students' own empirical materials. Consequently, students should be prepared to contribute empirical material to the workshops.

E. Assessment

Assessment is based on an individual take-home exam which consists of a further developed version of the analysis exercises, based on the comments received during the workshop seminars.

F. Grades

The grading scale is Fail, Pass.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of Pass, the student is required to have completed all the examination assignments, and to have achieved the stated learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of Fail, the student has shown inadequate results.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and the grading scale, as well as the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

G. Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have been admitted to a doctoral programme. Doctoral students at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University have priority if a selection process for registered students becomes necessary.

Oral and written proficiency in English corresponding to English 6/B from a Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement.
Equivalence is assessed in accordance with national guidelines.