



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

KFHVA01 Ethnography for Creative Practice , 7.5 credits

Etnografi för kreativ praxis, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design on 2021-04-29, and is valid from Autumn semester 2021.

Responsible Department

HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design, Faculty of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts

Entry requirements

Participants are required to have been admitted to third-cycle education and to be engaged in a research project that pertains to creative practice (broadly conceived as including fine, applied, performing arts, design, architecture, literature, film and media production).

If places are available, doctoral students admitted at other departments at the University of Gothenburg or elsewhere may also participate.

Learning outcomes

After completing the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe key developments in contemporary ethnographic research;
- Describe and discuss various ethnographic research and documentation strategies with a particular reference to creative practices.

Competence and skills

- Apply specific critical ethnographic processes to instances of creative practices
- Demonstrate the ability to write a critically reflexive autoethnography

Judgement and approach

- Compare and assess the use and limitations of different genres of ethnographic writing
- Evaluate the appropriateness of various critical ethnographic processes to creative practice research

Course content

This course offers an overview of ethnography as a method of investigation of social life with particular focus on creative practices and processes and research through creative practice. It is primarily targeted for doctoral students outside anthropology and focuses on popular uses of ethnography in many other disciplines in arts, humanities and social sciences but with particular emphasis on creative practices. The course departs from classical ethnographic research, moves into contemporary developments and reflects on ethical dilemmas in ethnographic research. The structure of the course weaves readings and practical exercises of ethnographic methods and offers the space for doctoral students to work directly on their own doctoral project and to create a community of ethnographic readers. The course will be organized in a series of workshops. The course is delivered through English.

Types of instruction

The course consists of lectures, seminars and practical exercises.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English.

Grades

The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.

Types of assessment

Assessment is based on one written assignment and two oral presentations.

First oral presentation is a report on example on creative practice ethnography.

The second oral presentation is on the student's own creative practice as occasion of critical ethnographic processes.

The written assignment is an essay on possibilities of use and development of critical ethnographic processes for the student's own creative practices.

Limit for the written assignment: min. 3000 to max. 6000 words.

Course evaluation

The course is evaluated in written form. This is complemented by a meeting after the course where the doctoral students and the course leader gather for joint evaluation and discussion.

Other information

The course is one of several electives developed to support doctoral researchers across the arts including, but not limited to, craft, design, film, fine art, literature, photography and arts education. This course responds to the need for training in methods of documentation and reflection on creative practice within a research process, a need identified by both supervisors and doctoral researchers in the regular research seminars of the institution.