

Course Syllabus

The Contemporary Coming-of-Age Novel in English: Female, Ethnic and Ageing Perspectives 7.5 Credits*, First Cycle Level 2

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students will be able to:

- demonstrate a familiarity with contemporary literary and cultural theory and concepts related to the *Bildungsroman* as well as with relevant concepts in gender, ethnicity and ageing studies
- perform independent analyses and interpretations of a selection of works pertaining to the contemporary *Bildungsroman* in English in the light of these theories and concepts
- orally and in writing communicate and argue for his or her own interpretations of literary texts in clear and correct academic English
- critically reflect upon and give constructive criticism to the work of others.

Course Content

The aim of this course is to analyse the most recent developments in the *Bildungsroman* genre in English and the way it was redefined during the final decades of the twentieth century and the early twenty-first century. A selection of texts will be analysed from the perspective of gender, ethnicity and ageing. This will raise awareness about the manner in which these texts in a critical sense challenge traditional definitions of the *Bildungsroman*. In the analysis, stress is on those aspects of the current socio-historical context, such as the gained prominence of women in society, transcultural exchanges and the ageing population, all of which are crucial both in the formation of the individual as well as for social integration.

Assessment

The course is examined through continuous assessment of seminar activities, oral and written work, and a final paper.

Forms of Study

The course consists of small-group teaching in seminars, pre-seminar

assignments, and written responses to literary as well as critical and theoretical texts. All teaching is conducted in English.

Grades

The Swedish grades U - VG.

Prerequisites

60 credits in English at First cycle level 1, including the course The History of British and American Literature and Ideas, 15 credits and either Cultural Texts and Contexts, 7.5 credits or Themes in Popular Literature, 7.5 credits, or equivalent knowledge

Subject:

English

Group of Subjects:

English

Disciplinary Domain:

Humanities, 100%

This course can be included in the following main field(s) of study:

1. English

Progression Indicator within (each) main field of study:

1. G2F

Approved:

Approved 17 September 2014
Valid from 17 September 2014