



## DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM, MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

### **MK2502 Term Paper in Media- and Communication Studies, 30 credits**

Examensarbete i Medie- och kommunikationsvetenskap, 30 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

---

#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2006-11-14 and was last revised on 2022-11-23 by Department of Journalism, Media and Communication to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester of 2023.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100%

*Department:* Department of Journalism, Media and Communication

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course is an advanced course that is given as a freestanding course and may be included in a Master's Degree (120 credits).

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Master's program in political communication (S2MKV) and 2) Master's programme in political communication (S2MKG)

#### *Main field of studies*

Media and Communication Studies with Specialization in Political Communication

Media and Communication Studies

#### *Specialization*

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

#### **Entry requirements**

Degree of Bachelor and at least one core course (15 credits) and an advanced course (15 credits) at second cycle level in media and communication studies. Furthermore, a social sciences method course at second cycle level or the equivalent knowledge are required.

**Learning outcomes**

For the degree project, the student should:

*Knowledge and understanding*

show knowledge about and understanding of the media and the communication science field, included both broad expertise in the area and considerably deepening knowledge in certain parts of the field and an advanced understanding of current research and development within the field.

show advanced knowledge of method within media and communication science.

*Competence and skills*

demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge critically and systematically and to analyse, assess and handle complex phenomena, issues, and situations.

demonstrate the ability to critically, independently, and creatively identify and formulate research questions to contribute to the knowledge development by planning and with adequate methods carry out qualified assignments within given time frames and demonstrate the ability to evaluate this work.

demonstrate the ability to vis-à-vis target groups in both intradisciplinary and extra-disciplinary contexts orally and in writing clearly describe and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and the arguments that form the basis for these.

show such proficiency that are required to work independently and together with others with qualified strategic media and communication issues within PR and information sector, investigative activity, research, and development.

*Judgement and approach*

demonstrate the ability to make assessments considering relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects and show awareness of ethical aspects of research and development in the media and the communication science field.

demonstrate an understanding of the possibilities and limitations of science and its role in society.

demonstrate the ability to identify their own need of knowledge and to take responsibility for their own knowledge development.

**Course content**

The course demands that the student designs and carries out an academic study independently. The problem formulation of the thesis can either be based on a problem related to communication in an organisation or be identified within the scope of one of

the research domains of the department. The student should on the basis of the problem area formulate research questions, choose methods and collect, process and analyse theoretical and empirical material. The results are presented in written form (the Master's (120 credits) thesis). The thesis work is carried out under supervision of supervisor who is appointed by the department. The work should be presented both in writing and orally, partly at an assessing seminar and partly through a presentation for the organisation or research group behind the assignment. The thesis constitutes a final preparation for the kinds of qualified skills that are required in the working life in the sectors of PR, information, media, investigation and research.

### **Form of teaching**

The course is assessed by the Master's (120 credits) thesis being presented and discussed at a seminar.

Tutorial is offered during the course and no later than six months after the course has ended.

Students who have failed an examination are entitled to undergo a new test. Students who have failed an examination twice have the right to change examiner. Such a request has to be handed in in written form to head of department.

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

The course examination consists of the master thesis being presented and discussed at a seminar. Students who do not obtain a pass have the right to a new examination.

Students who have failed twice have the right to ask for a change of examiner. This request has to be made in writing and be addressed to the prefect.

### **Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

### **Course evaluation**

The course is evaluated, both orally and in writing, when the course ends. The course administration treats possible quality deficiencies in the ongoing development work with the course. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course.

### **Additional information**

For more detailed information about the course, see current course guide.