



LUNDS
UNIVERSITET

Institutionen för kommunikation och medier

Timetable for Thesis MKVN13 (30 credits)

Course leader: Professor Annette Hill (Annette.hill@kom.lu.se)

Introduction Meeting 1

(Everyone welcome. Mandatory for students studying abroad/internships autumn 2017).

Tuesday 23rd May 2017. Group meeting 10-12 room H140, drop in session 1-4 A212.

In this meeting we will discuss the first step in planning your thesis topic, preparation for the thesis proposal and ideas for a successful thesis in media and communication studies.

Introduction Meeting 2

Wednesday 6th September 2017 (Everyone welcome. Mandatory for students, except those on study abroad/internships who attended the Introduction meeting 1). Group meeting 10-12 room A214, drop in session 1-4pm A212.

In this second meeting we will discuss the next steps in preparation for the thesis proposal and consider in more depth ideas for a successful thesis in media and communication studies.

Writing your postgraduate thesis outline

August to November 2017

This part of the course involves self directed study where you research and write your thesis outline. See two documents by Annette Hill and Peter Dahlgren to help you write your outline.

Submission of your thesis outline

Monday 20th November 2017.

Submission to Annette Hill via email by 5pm. This is a fixed deadline and extensions will be granted only in exceptional cases.

Allocation of your supervisor

Monday 11th December 2017

You will receive information about your thesis supervisor from the course leader. Once you are allocated a supervisor, you can send an introduction email to them requesting a meeting in January 2018.

Supervision

January to May 2018

In our department we place a premium on individual supervision in person where we offer you advice and constructive criticism on your thesis research. A common approach to supervision is to discuss ideas and research parameters for your thesis in the early meetings, followed by more detailed supervision related to empirical research and written material.

You can expect a minimum of five individual meetings with your supervisor, in addition to any group meetings or further support your supervisor may arrange with you. You can also expect your supervisor to offer email support during office hours Monday to Friday in term time, where they

will answer questions and offer advice on your progress. In terms of editorial guidance, you and your supervisor may arrange editorial feedback for drafts of your writing, subject to an agreed timeframe. In return, your supervisor expects you to listen and follow advice, work in a timely and responsible manner, and produce independent research of a standard expected for a postgraduate thesis. Your supervisor offers advice on the quality of your thesis, however, you are ultimately responsible for the thesis and the submission of your research for examination.

Thesis Workshops

This is a full time course, based in Lund, and you will want to devote much time and energy to your thesis, between January to the submission deadline in May 2018. The resources for this course are primarily focused on supervision, the thesis seminars, and examination.

Along the way, we have designed a series of workshops that help you improve your thesis work, and encourage you to keep on track for the May submission. Look on these workshops as marker points in the thesis process; it helps to have dates in mind when you are managing your own schedule, for example the workshop on writing is designed to get you writing, or the workshop on analysis is designed at the stage when you are analysing empirical and theoretical material. Think about study groups, regular meetings, and reading and reflecting on each other's work. You will find this is invaluable support as you experience the process of researching and writing your thesis.

Information about the workshops and a timetable will be distributed in January 2017. Workshops are designed for all students on the topics of writing, managing stress, and analysing; the skills are about the craft of research for your thesis, and are general skills for planning and writing your research work.

Thesis Meeting January 2018

Thursday 25th January 2018

Kick starting your thesis (mandatory for all students). This meeting is designed to help with sharing knowledge, concerns, and experience about the craft of research at the start of your thesis work and the relationship with your supervisor.

Thesis Seminars

Monday 26th – Wednesday 28th February 2018

This is where you present the progress of your thesis research to your peers, course leader and other staff members, outlining the aims, objectives and research questions, discussing methods and theories, and engaging in dialogue about your thesis topics. These seminars will be organised in panels and provide an opportunity for fine tuning your research ideas and practice.

Submission

Monday 14th May 2018

Please see separate documents for information on guidelines for submission, thesis format, and so forth.

Examination

28th May to 31st May 2018

Your thesis will be examined by one member of staff who will provide written and oral feedback, following the criteria for examination in the thesis course outline and using the A-F grading system.

Further examination deadlines are available for those students with exceptional circumstances, or for re-examination purposes. These dates include second examination August 13th 2018, thesis seminars 22nd to 23rd August 2018, and third examination point 3rd December 2018, thesis seminar 13th December 2018.

You will defend your thesis in a seminar, with your examiner and a student rapporteur. The seminar is mandatory and part of the learning experience for a postgraduate thesis in the Faculty of Social Sciences. You will receive a pass/fail grade for your participation in the seminar.

You will be given a guide on how to prepare for your seminar and the kinds of topics and questions that will be covered in the examination relating to your aims and objectives, research questions, literature review, methods, and analysis. The seminar is open to other postgraduate students and staff to attend and there will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions towards the end of the discussion. Upon completion of the seminar you will receive written feedback and your grade from the examiner.

As a student rapporteur, you will be given a guide as to how to prepare for the seminar, including your written comments on the student's thesis topic and questions that will be covered in the examination relating to the thesis aims and objectives, research questions, literature review, methods, and analysis. Upon completion of the seminar, you will receive a pass/fail grade as a student rapporteur.