Multimodality: Theoretical and methodological perspectives, 7.5 Credits

1 Course content

The course presents a number of theoretical and methodological approaches to multimodality: how different modes of communication combine for meaning-making in different contexts. The research field is theoretically and methodologically multifaceted, and the course introduces a number of important approaches, for example discourse analysis and educational and rhetorical approaches. The course also contains an in-depth study within one or a few of these approaches, if possible with direct relevance to their own PhD thesis.

2 Outcomes

2.1 The course in relation to the doctoral programme

The course shall primarily refer to the following intended learning outcomes for third-cycle courses and study programmes as described in the Higher Education Ordinance, i.e. the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding
- advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field (part of outcome 1)
- familiarity with the methods of the specific field of research in particular (part of outcome 2)

Competence and skills
- the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis (part of outcome 3)
- the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively (part of outcome 4)
The intended learning outcomes are listed in the same order as in the general syllabus for the programme.

2.2 Intended course learning outcomes

To obtain a passing grade, the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

- advanced and up-to-date knowledge of and familiarity with theories and methods in the field of multimodal research
- capacity to by use of relevant methods perform multimodal analyses that lead to a synthesis, and
- capacity to formulate at least one issue with relevance to the field of multimodality.

3 Reading list and other teaching material

The following course readings and teaching material will be used on the course:

The reading list consists of approx. 1000 pages and includes literature that corresponds to the research front. The reading list is communicated three weeks before the start of the course, at the latest.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

The course is given through seminars and/or self studies with supervision.

5 Examination

The course is assessed through an examination consisting of the components listed below. The individual components are not graded separately but together they provide the basis for assessment and grading.

- A written assignment containing a discussion of theories and methods within the field along with a multimodal analysis, and
- An oral discussion of the written assignment.

6 Grades

Examinations on third-cycle courses and study programmes are to be assessed according to a two-grade scale with either of the grades ‘fail’ or ‘pass’ (local regulations).

The grade shall be determined by a teacher specifically nominated by the higher education institution (the examiner) (Higher Education Ordinance).

To obtain a passing grade on examinations included in the course, the doctoral student is required to demonstrate that he/she attains the intended course learning outcomes as described in section 2.2. Alternatively, if the course consists of multiple examinations generating credit, the doctoral student is required to demonstrate that he/she attains the outcomes that the examination in question refers to in accordance with section 5.

A student who has failed an examination is entitled to a retake.
If an examination consists of several examination components, and a student fails an examination component, the examiner may, as an alternative to a retake, set a make-up assignment with regard to the examination component in question.

A doctoral student who has failed an examination twice for a specific course or course element is entitled, upon his/her request, to have another examiner appointed to determine the grade.

7 Admission to the course

7.1 Admission requirements

To gain access to the course and complete the examinations included in the course, the applicant must be admitted to a doctoral programme at Örebro University.

7.2 Selection

Selection between applicants who have been admitted to doctoral programmes at Örebro University and who otherwise meet the admission requirements as listed above is made according to the following order of precedence:

Preference is given to doctoral students admitted to the subject of studies in the humanities at Örebro University. Secondarily, doctoral students admitted to other subjects at Örebro University may participate. If there are still places available, doctoral students from other universities can participate.

If no other selection criteria are specified in this section, priority shall be given to applicants with a lower number of course credits left before the award of their degree over applicants with a higher number of remaining course credits. Should two or more students have equal number of credits, selection will be done through the drawing of lots. This also applies within any selection groups listed unless otherwise stated.

7.3 Other applicants than doctoral students admitted at Örebro University

Other applicants than doctoral students admitted at Örebro University may be given access to the course on the grounds of provisions for and/or agreements regarding contracted courses, joint degrees, national graduate schools or cooperation in other respects with other universities.

Any decisions on what such other applicants may be given access to the course are made separately and on the basis of the provisions and/or agreements that occasion the student to apply for the course.

For participation in the course in other respects, the same provisions shall apply as for doctoral students admitted to Örebro University.

8 Transfer of credits for courses, study programmes and other experience

Provisions on the transfer of credits can be found in the Higher Education Ordinance and on the university’s webpage.

9 Other information
The course is taught in English.

**Transitional provisions**

No transitional provision