

MALMÖ UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Culture and Society
Research and Doctoral Education Committee

Vice dean Bo Petersson

Translation of decision

Dnr KS 64-2015/347

Syllabus

Cultural Political Economy – Theory, Methods and Applications

Course name in Swedish

Kulturell politisk ekonomi – Teori, metod och tillämpningar

Course name in English

Cultural Political Economy – Theory, Methods and Applications

Approval and date of approval

Approved 2015-05-05 by the chair of the Research and Doctoral Education Committee at the Faculty of Culture and Society after preparation by the committee. The syllabus is valid from the autumn semester of 2015.

Course code

KSMU002

Credits

7.5 credits

Level

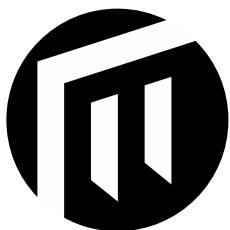
Third cycle

Grading scale

Pass or fail. For a pass grade the student must pass all examination tasks on the course.

Entry requirements

Admission to the doctoral programme in MUSA or to doctoral programmes in adjacent subjects in social science and the humanities, e.g. political science, economy, sociology, geography, cultural studies, linguistics or media and communication studies. Eligibility to be admitted to the doctoral programmes within the area Migration, urbanisation, and societal change (MUSA).



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Intended learning outcomes

Following successful completion of the course, the doctoral student shall be able to

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Cultural Political Economy (CPE) as a field of study, a theoretical approach and an emerging body of knowledge, and describe and evaluate this theoretical approach, its precursors and its place in the recent development of social sciences.
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features of contemporary economic and political regimes, their integration into the global order, their crisis-tendencies, and recent economic and political developments.
- demonstrate knowledge of how sense- and meaning-making occurs and how semiotic practices and content are articulated into different kinds of social imaginary, and of the grounded analytics appropriate to the integrated study of sense- and meaning-making and institutional dynamics.
- from the perspective of CPE interpret and evaluate emerging social and political phenomena, and independently and creatively develop and apply this approach in new contexts and in relation to new problems, related to the doctoral student's own particular research.
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which these conclusions are based.

Course description

Cultural political economy aims to synthesize the study of sense- and meaning-making and the critique of political economy in both theoretical and empirical terms. The analysis of crisis is an especially useful entry-point into these two sets of concerns but other entry-points are also relevant.

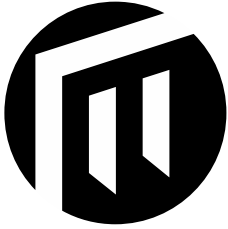
The course is especially suitable for a doctoral training programme that will contribute to transdisciplinary capacity building for students coming from different disciplines. Its aim is to equip participants with the theoretical background and skills necessary to understand the changing terrain of political economy at different scales and sites and to provide the critical analytical tools for understanding the interaction between sense- and meaning-making and the nature and dynamics of economic and political institutions.

The course deals with (but is not confined to) areas such as competitiveness, economic imaginaries, economic crises, financialization, the knowledge-based economy, migration, neo-liberalism, political crises, social democracy, urban restructuring, urban social movements, varieties of capitalism, and welfare state restructuring.

Content

The course begins with the importance of sense- and meaning-making (or semiosis), introducing its general significance and outlining methods of critical semiotic analysis.

Examples are taken from recent economic and political imaginaries and how they have shaped



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institution-building and regime formation at different sites and scales. Next it introduces some basic principles of institutional and evolutionary political economy and how these can be applied to the analysis of growth regimes, their political and socio-cultural embedding, and issues of crisis and transformation. The third part of the course brings these themes together and provides opportunities for participants to present their own research ideas for mutual evaluation and development under the guidance of the course tutors.

Work formats

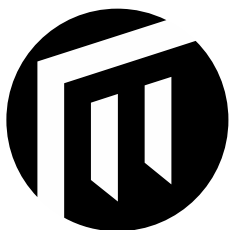
In addition to individual studies of the literature and writing papers, the teaching methods are based on 1) thoroughgoing workshops including elements of lecture, debate, group discussion (based on questions or assignments posed to the groups) and opposition and defence of written papers, and 2) distance learning in the form of written feedback and individual discussions between PhD students and tutors, using the university's e-learning platform. Between workshops, the tasks of the students will consist mainly of literature reading, individual work with written assignments, keeping a dialogue with the tutors and preparing for the oral presentations and discussions of the concluding workshop.

Formats for assessing student performances

- Written critical review of a recommended text, 2.5 credits
- Written individual paper, 4 credits
- Oral presentation and discussion of one's individual paper, 1 credit

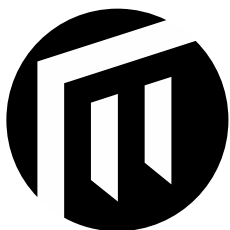
Reading list and other teaching materials

Author	Date	Title and Publishing Details
Andersen, N.Å.	2003	<i>Discourse Analytical Strategies: Foucault, Koselleck, Laclau, Luhmann</i> , Bristol: Policy Press, 93-118
Babe, R.E.	2008	<i>Cultural Studies and Political Economy: Toward a New Integration</i> , Oxford: Lexington Books, 13-60
Best, J. & Paterson, M.	2010	'Introduction', in <i>idem</i> (eds) <i>Cultural Political Economy</i> , London: Routledge, 1-25
Brand, U.	2013	Historical materialist policy analysis, unpublished
Bristow, G.	2005	'Everyone's a "winner": problematising the discourse of regional competitiveness', <i>Journal of Economic Geography</i> , 5 (3), 285-304
Bussolini, J.	2010	'What is a dispositive?' <i>Foucault Studies</i> , 10 , 85-107



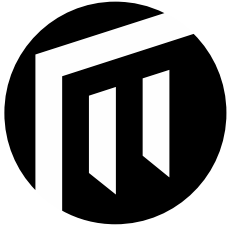
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| Boltanski, L. & Chiapello, E. | 2005 | <i>The New Spirit of Capitalism</i> , London: Verso, 57-102 |
| De Rycker, A. & Don, Z.R. | 2013 | <i>Discourses and Crisis: Critical Perspectives</i> , Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 3-66. |
| Eagleton, T. | 1991 | <i>Ideology: an Introduction</i> . London: Verso, 193-220 |
| Fairclough, N. | 2006 | <i>Language and Globalization</i> , London: Routledge, 27-38. |
| Foucault, M. | 1972 | <i>The Archaeology of Knowledge</i> , London: Routledge, 31-76 |
| Grossberg, L. | 2006 | 'Does cultural studies have futures? Should it? (Or what's the matter with New York?)', <i>Cultural Studies</i> , 20 (1), 1-32 |
| Grossberg, L. | 2013 | 'Culture', <i>Rethinking Marxism</i> , 25 (4), 456-62. |
| Hall, S. | 1980 | 'Cultural Studies: two paradigms', <i>Media, Culture and Society</i> , 2 , 57-72. |
| Howarth, D. | 2000 | <i>Discourse</i> , Buckingham: Open Court Press, 101-25 |
| Ives, P. | 2004 | <i>Language and Hegemony in Gramsci</i> . London: Pluto Press, 72-101. |
| Jessop, B. | 2008 | 'A cultural political economy of competitiveness and its implications for higher education', in B. Jessop, N. Fairclough, and R. Wodak (eds), <i>Education and the Knowledge-Based Economy in Europe</i> , Rotterdam: Sense Publishers, 11-39 |
| Jessop, B. | 2009 | 'Cultural political economy and critical policy studies', <i>Critical Policy Studies</i> , 3 (3), 336-56. |
| Jessop, B. | 2015 | The symptomatology of crises, reading crises and learning from them: some critical realist reflections, <i>Journal of Critical Realism</i> , in press |
| Jessop, B. & Sum, N. | 2000 | Jessop, B. and Sum, N.-L. (2000), 'An entrepreneurial city in action', <i>Urban Studies</i> , 37 (12), 2290-315 |
| Jones, D.S. | 2012 | <i>Masters of the Universe: Hayek, Friedman, and the Birth of Neoliberal Politics</i> , Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1-20, 329-43 |
| Jones, P. | 2004 | <i>Raymond Williams's Sociology of Culture: A Critical</i> |



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- Reconstruction*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 37-60
- Joseph, M. 2014 *Debt to Society: Accounting for Life under Capitalism*, 1-28
- Laclau, E. & Mouffe, C. 1985 *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*, London: Verso, ch 3.
- Lazaratto, M. 2012 *The Rise of the Indebted Man*, New York: Semiotext(e)
- MacKenzie, D. 2009 *Material Markets: how Economic Agents are Constructed*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 37-62.
- Rehman, J. 2013 *Theories of Ideology*, Leiden: Brill, 21-54
- Reisigl, M. & Wodak, R. 2009 'The discourse-historical approach (DHA)', in *idem* (eds), *Methods for Critical Discourse Analysis*, 2nd ed., London: SAGE, 87-119.
- Robotham, D. 2005 *Culture, Society and Economy. Bringing Production Back In*, London: SAGE, 7-42.
- Sayer, A. 2001 'For a critical cultural political economy', *Antipode*, **33** (4), 667-708.
- Schmidt, V.A 2010 'Taking ideas and discourse seriously: Explaining change through discursive institutionalism as the fourth "new institutionalism"', *European Political Science Review*, **2** (1), 1-25
- Seabrooke, L. 2007 'Varieties of economic constructivism in political economy: uncertain times for disparate measures', *Review of International Political Economy*, **14** (2), 371-85.
- Spitzmüller, J. & Warnke, I.H. 2011 'Discourse as a "linguistic object": methodical and methodological delimitations', *Critical Discourse Studies*, **8** (1), 75-94.
- Sum, N. & Jessop, B. 2013 *Towards a Cultural Political Economy*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 96-230, 467-483 (Theory)
- Sum, N. & Jessop, B. 2013 *Towards a Cultural Political Economy*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 296-323, 395-439 (Cases)
- Sum, N.-L. & Pun, N. 2005 'Globalization and ethical production chain: corporate social responsibility in a Chinese workplace', *Competition & Change*, **9** (2), 181-200.



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Taylor, C.A.	2003	<i>Modern Social Imaginaries</i> , Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 23-30
Torring, J.	1999	<i>New Theories of Discourse: Laclau, Mouffe and Žižek</i> , Oxford: Blackwell, 15-44.
Walters, W.	2012	<i>Governmentality: Critical Encounters</i> , London: Routledge, 110-130
Williams, R.	1985	Introduction, <i>Keywords</i> , 2 nd edn, Oxford: OUP.

Other readings may be suggested as reference literature, depending on the PhD student's familiarity with different theoretical strands within the course's field of study.

Transitional regulations

In situations where the course is no longer offered or the course contents have been significantly changed, the doctoral candidate has the right, during a period of one year following the change, to be examined on two different occasions in accordance with the course syllabus valid at the date of registration.

Course evaluation

The course will be completed with an individual, written course evaluation based on the objectives of the course. The course convenor will provide information about the results and any measures to be implemented on the basis of the results prior to the next course. In connection with the course start, the course convenor will provide information about measures that have been implemented since the previous occasion when the course was offered.