



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine & Performing Arts

KONB98, Art in the Public Sphere, 7.5 credits

Konst i offentligheten, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Department Board of Malmö Art Academy on 2022-12-15 to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester 2023.

General Information

Theoretical course, Lund University, Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts, Malmö Art Academy.

Optional course for the BFA programme (KGFKO).

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of studies

Fine Arts

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

GXX, First cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Learning outcomes

The aim is to provide the students with deepened knowledge and insight in both the artistic field which their work will be a part of and the history of how that field has developed.

To integrate analytical knowledge into their own artistic work, both in the spoken and the written language, will be given special attention.

The course aim is to enhance the students' ability to formulate and show a well-motivated artistic wholeness.

The goal is that the students shall develop a deepened understanding of artistic work.

Course content

"The external power that deprives man of the freedom to communicate his thoughts publicly deprives him at the same time of his freedom to think," Hanna Arendt reciting Immanuel Kant in *Between Past and Future*

Through a series of seminars, we will work out a theoretical ground for thinking about what it means to be working with art in a public space. We will mainly focus on what is called “public art” but not exclusively as most exhibitions take place in a public context.

First will have to figure out what public space or a public sphere is, and in what time and context it was established. To do this we will read Jurgen Habermas’s seminal texts *The Public Sphere*, as well as Henri Lefebvre’s *The Production of Space*.

Through a reading of Miwon Kwon’s *One Place After Another* we will consider site specificity as something spatial, geographical, social, and discursive. To what degree can a work embrace or disregard its site specificity or context? What can be gained from site or context specificity, and what can get lost?

The course will also function as a theoretical prologue to a second course that will be held in a collaboration with Malmö Art Museum and Malmö City Culture Administration in the fall, which will explore the practical aspects of working with public art. Participation in the first course will give priority to participate in the second. Although my aim is that this course

will be interesting and useful also for students who do not want to participate in the second course, as well as for those who do not intend to work with “public art” at all.

The course will start with a joint seminar with Gertrud Sandqvist’s course on Hanna Arendt.

Course design

The course consists seminars with a vital element of discussion supervised by the responsible teacher/s.

There may be a task in form of a writtent text.

Assessment

For the grade pass the student needs to be at least 80% present at lectures and seminars and the grade pass on tasks, if any.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden