



Umeå centrum för genusstudier
Forskarutbildning

Kursplan

Sid 1 [\(2\)](#)

Discourse analysis: theory and practice

Diskursanalys: teori och praktik

Credit points: 7,5

Responsible department: Umeå Centre for Gender Studies

Main field of study: Gender Studies

Level: Doctoral Studies

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass

Language: English

Course approval

The Director of Umeå Centre for Gender Studies has confirmed this course syllabus on 14 October 2025 and is valid from autumn semester of 2025.

Aim and Contents

This course provides an introduction to poststructuralist thinking and to the practice of discourse analysis. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with, discuss, and apply a range of theoretical concepts and methodological tools in relation to their own research projects. Specifically, the course introduces the ontological presuppositions and the epistemological implications of Foucauldian Discourse Analysis, Critical Discourse Analysis, and Discourse Theory/Logics of Critical Explanation.

The examination consists of active participation in seminars and workshops as well as written assignments.

Expected learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course the doctoral student should:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for methodological and analytical challenges of different discourse analytical approaches,
- have good knowledge of central concepts within three different discourse analytical approaches,
- have good knowledge about various methodological and analytical approaches of discourse analysis,

Skills and abilities

- be able to identify the specific characteristics of different discourse analytical approaches with regards to ontological and epistemological similarities and differences,
- be able to read, interpret and discuss how different researchers apply discourse



Umeå centrum för genusstudier

Kursplan

Sid [2 \(2\)](#)

Forskarutbildning

- analysis in empirical research,
- be able to apply different discourse theoretical concepts and methodological tools in their own research projects,

Judgement and approach

- be able to critically reflect on diverse aspects of different discourse analytical approaches and relate them to concrete examples, theoretical and methodological dilemmas within their own research.

Form of instruction and examination modes

The course is given in English.

The learning outcomes are examined through compulsory seminars, written seminar preparation as well as an individually written essay. The essay should contain a critical examination and discussion of the course literature and an application to the doctoral student's own research. The final paper can be written in either English, Swedish, Danish, or Norwegian.