



## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **Critical Images**

The course is intended for those with a background in art, filmmaking, photography, visual media, journalism, ethics, aesthetics, human rights law, activism and philosophy who wish to advance and expand their critical, artistic practice and research skills in order to contribute to a rethinking of the representations of the world.

### **Scope of the course**

30 credits, part-time, freestanding course

### **Level**

Advanced

### **Language**

English

### **Admission requirements**

Master of Fine Arts, or a Master in another relevant field or the equivalent knowledge. Documented work samples demonstrating a relation to the thematic of the course are required.

### **Selection**

A selection is made based on work samples, CV and a motivation letter that together constitutes the application.

### **Course content**

Critical Images (hereafter CI) is a post-master course, which aims to establish an international, inter-institutional and interdisciplinary discourse, contributing to a universal reflection on the right to the image and the ethics of representation. CI is taught by both national and international lecturers with the aim to address relevant and urgent issues related to the right to the image. Through historical and contemporary perspectives, political and ethical aspirations of the production and distribution of images are put into question.

The aim is to build on the anonymous Syrian film collective Abounaddara's framework to experiment with the production of dignified images and a critical discourse together with artists, filmmakers, activists and scholars.

CI reroutes part of the course discussion to historical reflections on ethics and images of rebellion or war. By rooting the course in these historical, philosophical, juridical reflections on image production and image consumption into the issues of ethics and dignity facing art and image production today, CI intends to bring light to collective agency and activism around the right to the image.

Through a series of lectures, seminars, workshops and discussion groups, CI intends to advance practice-based artistic research and critical artistic form and aims to advance emancipatory thought and critical artistic practice. Further the course aims to measure whether critical parameters for image production are still possible, be that in Syria, Sweden, or elsewhere in the world.

### **Expected learning outcomes**

After the completion of the course, the student is expected to:

- exhibit an advanced ability to practise critical, artistic, research skills
- demonstrate an ability to apply critical, artistic, theoretical and historical concepts and strategy formation in research and artworks
- formulate coherent critique to present day challenges and problematics regarding dignity and image production and distribution
- show the ability of artists and academics to address an urgent issue, which threatens the future of humanity.

### **Course structure and modules**

The part-time course is divided into two modules during one academic year:

*Critical Images: Historical, aesthetical, juridical and theoretical perspectives*, 15 credits (Autumn Semester)

*Critical Images: Current Models*, 15 credits (Spring Semester)

There will be approximately one week of lectures, seminars and workshops, per month as well as additional reading/discussion/tutorial sessions based on the lectures, workshops and the reading assignments provided.

### **Forms of examination**

The first module of the course is examined by the course teacher ensuring that the students have developed a comprehensive knowledge of the theoretical and artistic foundations of the course. This takes the form of a paper and a draft for a project that will be further pursued in the Spring semester.

The second module of the course is examined by the end of the academic year by the course teacher, together with an advisory panel of one or two external members, and is based on the project agreed upon in the first semester.

To pass the course, active participation in the lectures and seminars is required (minimum 70%), and to fulfil the workshop assignments, and to present a final project that altogether meets the expected learning outcomes.

**Grading**

Pass or Fail

**Examiner**

Senior Lecturer in Critical Images

**Course literature and other study resources**

A literature list will be presented at the beginning of the course. Complementary readings will be submitted throughout the course.

**Establishment**

The course syllabus has been decided by the Education and Research Council 2017-02-07 and is valid from the Autumn semester 2017. It has been revised by the Education and Research Council 2018-03-20 and is valid from the Autumn semester 2018.