

NoVA seminar I, Spring 2019

Time and place

Wednesday 6.2.–8.5.2019
R028/Q102 (Väre Building)

Content:

This course explores visual culture sites and communities, outside of formal schooling. The course is based on a community-based project, seminar discussions and activities at various sites, together with readings of service learning and art in societal context.

Goals

The learning outcomes below define the knowledge, skills and competences the student is expected to acquire from the course.

Knowledge

- Students understand the Nordic societal conditions, group practices, and learning processes.-
- Students have the ability to recognize Nordic societal practices, process and strategies

Skills

- Students are able identify and utilize various ways learning takes place through immersion of a group
- Students are able to analyse various forms of auto-didactic learning, cooperative learning, and peer-initiated learning

Competences

- Students are able to analyse and interpret how knowledge and cultural production occurs through group practices outside of formal schooling
- Students get ability to manage and evaluate short term projects

Learning methods

Assessment methods include Reading Reflections (20%), Discussion (20%), Group Assignments (20%), and Group Project (40%)

Program

- 6.2. Course orientation (Jaana & Tiina)
- 13.2. On the Site (Jaana & Tiina)
- 20.2. *no seminar*
- 27.2. Themes and groups for project, Reading Reflections assignment (Thesis) (Tiina)
- 6.3. *NoVa Symposium*
- 13.3. Idea presentations on projects and further planning (Jaana)
- 20.3. Thesis with a project or with a production (presentations) (Tiina)
(MA thesis in Aalto, compare to your own university's thesis requirements)
- 27.3. Thesis with a project or with a production (presentations) (Tiina)
(MA thesis in Aalto, compare to your own university's thesis requirements) (Tiina)
- 3.4. Project Plans Ready (Tiina)
- 10.4. *no seminar*
- 17.4. Current Issues (Jaana)
- 24.4. Current Issues (Jaana)
- 1.5. *First of May*
- 8.5. Presenting project works (Jaana & Tiina)

In addition: 2 contact guidance meetings, which include 1 on-site visit + 1 project planning check together with Jaana.

A) Prompts for your response to selected (lunch) talks, debates, lectures, and events

(More information on lunch talk & debate will be delivered)

Please write a one to two-page paper that is a response to the talk, lecture, or event specified in the course. The paper should include the following points:

- What is the main concern, theory, or question that is being addressed and how does it resonate with your thinking and perceptions?
- How does the topic address your understanding of art, education, visual studies, etc.?
- What might you take away from the talk/work and apply to your present and future experiences (future profession or thesis topic, for example)?
- What questions are you left with?

B) Prompts for your investigation of a Master's thesis:

Please read carefully one (entire) master's thesis and address the following questions in a 3-5 page paper, double-spaced, and with quotes, references, etc:

- What is the "main idea" of the thesis (What does the thesis attempt to accomplish)?
- What kind of role project/production has in thesis? Who were in collaboration?
- What is the scholarly/theoretical framework around the topic?
- What are the methodologies and strategies used for the research?
- What areas of this study strike you (as interesting, relevant, un-related, curious, etc.), and why?
- What do you learn from this thesis and where might it lead you?

C) Project work

Project work will be done by small groups (2-3 students). Project work consist three parts: planning, action and reporting.

Planning

Planning takes place in February and March. During site visit find out:

- a) What is the main goal and contexts of the site? What are they working towards?
- b) What could You as a group do there and when?
- c) How Your project meets the goals of the site?
- d) What kind of resources there are for Your project (Materials, Space etc.)

After site visit we will plan together the main theme for the project.

Action and Reporting

Action takes place in March–April. Documentation is important part of action and for that You need a permissions by the people who take part Your action.

Please, prepare to give an introduction to your peer students in 5th of May. More detailed advices on presentation will be shared.