



# LUNDS UNIVERSITET

Humanistiska och teologiska fakulteterna

## Course syllabus for third-cycle studies

1. Course details		
1.	Course code	<i>HIA001F (5 credits), HIA002F (2.5 credits, continuation)</i>
2.	Course title	<i>Information Disorders, Datafied Information Infrastructures, and Source Criticism / Informationsavvikelser, datafierade informationsinfrastrukturer och källkritik</i>
3.	Credits	<i>5 credits with option for continuation of 2.5 credits</i>
4.	Details of approval	<i>Approved in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and Delegation at the Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 28 March 2024.</i>
5.	Details of revision	

2. General information		
1.	Type of course and its place in the educational system	<i>This is an elective course in the third-cycle programme in Information Studies.</i>
2.	Language of instruction	<i>The course is usually conducted in English, but can be conducted in Swedish by special agreement between the course lecturers and students. Such an agreement requires that the lecturers and all students are proficient in Swedish.</i>

3. Learning outcomes		
		On completion of the course, the students shall be able to
1.	Knowledge and understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>explain theories about information infrastructure and sociomateriality</i></li><li><i>explain key concepts, such as information disorders, trust, credibility and disinformation</i></li><li><i>explain different methods of control over access to information such as fact-checking activities, ranking algorithms and moderation, and media and information literacy.</i></li></ul>
2.	Competence and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>demonstrate the ability, orally and in writing, to apply theories about information infrastructures and sociomateriality in empirical research</i></li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>demonstrate the ability, orally and in writing, to apply key concepts covered during the course in empirical research</i></li> <li>• <i>demonstrate a critical understanding of different methods and forms of control over access to information such as fact-checking activities, ranking algorithms and moderation, and media and information literacy.</i></li> </ul>
3.	Judgement and approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>demonstrate the ability, orally and in writing, to evaluate the role of information infrastructure both for their own research and for society as a whole</i></li> <li>• <i>critically evaluate different methods and forms of control over access to information in relation to their own research and to society as a whole.</i></li> </ul>

<b>4. Course content</b>		
1.	Brief description of the course and its content including details of any sub-divisions	<p><i>The course covers information infrastructures and how they can be theoretically understood and related to so-called information disorders (e.g. disinformation, misleading information, conspiracy theories and influence operations). The course includes key concepts within the field as well as various methods used to control access to information: fact-checking, algorithms and moderation, media and information literacy, and source criticism. Through the course, the doctoral students have the opportunity to reflect on and develop a critical understanding of the increasing datafication of information infrastructures and its consequences.</i></p> <p><i>The five meetings that follow the introduction have the following themes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Sociomateriality and information infrastructures</i></li> <li><i>2. Problematising key concepts: trust, mistrust, truth, disinformation and conspiracy theories</i></li> <li><i>3. Opinions, facts and fact-checking</i></li> <li><i>4. Platforms, generative AI, algorithms and moderation</i></li> <li><i>5. Media and information literacy</i></li> </ol>

<b>5. Teaching and assessment</b>		
1.	Teaching methods employed including details of any compulsory components	<i>The course is conducted at a rate of 50% of full-time study and is divided into an online course introduction and five online meetings. Each meeting includes a seminar followed by a short introduction of the theme and literature for the next meeting. All components are compulsory.</i>
2.	Examination details	<p><i>The course is assessed through attendance and active participation in all meetings and seminars. In addition, the course will be examined in the following ways:</i></p> <p><i>Before each seminar, the students are to write a short essay (of at least 1,000 words) on a topic from the course literature and formulate a question for the other participants. Participation in the five seminar discussions of the course will be based on the essays and questions submitted by participants in advance.</i></p> <p><i>For the students who wish to study the continuation part worth 2.5 credits, the following assessed component will be added: A longer essay (approximately 5,000 words) based on a selection of the course literature, in which the literature is discussed in relation to the student's doctoral degree project.</i></p> <p><i>The department is responsible for offering a replacement assignment if the doctoral student through no fault of their own, due to an accident, sudden illness or similar, has been unable to complete a compulsory component.</i></p>

<b>6. Grades</b>		
1.	Grading scale	<i>Fail or Pass.</i>
2.	Grading of the complete course	<i>For the grade of Pass for the complete course, this grade is required on all course components. It is possible to opt out of writing the longer essay included in the continuation part of the course, worth 2.5 credits, and only study for 5 credits within the framework of the course.</i>
3.	Modules and variations in grading (if applicable)	

<b>7. Required reading</b>		
1.	Reading list	<i>For a list of the course literature and other study resources, see appendix.</i>

<b>8.</b>	<b>Other information</b>
1.	<i>The course is offered within the framework of the graduate school in Information Studies – ReSource.</i>
2.	