

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY

Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies

Syllabus

Feminist Digital Ethnography

7.5 Credits

Code: GV1DIGI

Finalized by: Institutionsstyrelsen vid Institutionen för etnologi, religionshistoria och genusvetenskap, 2024-06-13

Valid from: Autumn semester 2024 (2024-09-02)

Level within study regulation: Third cycle

Course modules Feminist Digital Ethnography, 7.5 Credits

1. Entry requirements

Students admitted to a PhD programme at the Faculty of Humanities or another faculty at Stockholm University, or the equivalent at another higher education institution, are eligible.

2. Learning outcomes

After completing this course, students are expected to:

- Demonstrate familiarity with ethnographic methods for generating and analysing empirical material in digital environments, including an in-depth insight on the strengths and limitations of these methods.
- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of ethical considerations in feminist ethnography of the digital and via the digital.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply ethnographic methods to digital platforms, cultures or design of digital technologies.

3. Content

This course offers an introduction to feminist ethnography, particularly in digital and data-rich settings. It delves into the use of ethnographic methods for researching digital spaces like social media platforms, blogs, discussion forums, immersive digital realms such as video games, virtual worlds, and the application of digital technologies in everyday life, as well as the production and design of digital technologies. The course specifically aims to deepen understanding of methodological challenges and ethical considerations in digital ethnography using feminist theories and approaches. This is accomplished by reflecting on examples of feminist digital ethnographies, and through exercises where students apply qualitative methods to generate and analyse empirical data from digital environments and concerning digital technologies and cultures.

4. Mandatory exams

The course comprises mandatory seminars and/or workshops, and a mini-conference. Any absences can be compensated for to a limited extent by written substitution.

5. Forms of examination

The course is examined through active participation in the seminars/workshops, the mini-conference, and through a course paper.

6. Form of instruction

The course consists of lectures and seminars and/or workshops on the course's theme and perspective, in which ethnographic materials are analysed and discussed. This includes seminars with ethnographers who share their experiences of generating and analysing empirical materials in or about digital environments. At the end of the course, the students present, discuss and review each other's final assignments during a mini-conference.

The course is given in English.