The Swedish Film

Theoretical course on the subject of Swedish cinema today and in the past, mainly taught on the base of watching films relevant to the discourse in order to engage the students in discussion through assignments based of the content of the various films, and their meaning for the Swedish society.

Course objectives

The main goal of the course is to give the students a deeper insight and understanding to how closely related Swedish films in general are to the society they aim to portray. Students are expected to understand the relationship between cinema and society from a Swedish perspective, in addition to being able to define certain movements in Swedish film history.

Content

Films
During the course the students will watch, speak and write about films like
You, The Living, Force Majeure, Songs From the Second Floor, Wild Strawberries, Together, Elivra Madigan, The Emigrants and the Immigrants, Fucking Åmål, Eat, Sleep, Die and My Life as a Dog, etc.

Excursions
The students will participate in excursions during the course. The classic cinema Slottsbiografen in Uppsala will be visited and an Ingmar Bergman-movie will be screened and discussed. Moreover the students will visit the old film city, Gamla Filmstaden in Solna just outside Stockholm, in order to get an deeper insight into the era when the Swedish film industry was made up of a genre-based business-minded approach similar to that in contemporary Hollywood.

Examination
Course examination for students taking the course for credit consists of a personal paper written on a film of choice and consists of 6 to 8 A4 pages. The paper must include both an analytical and emotional approach to the subject of the film and the world it explores.

Language of instruction

The course will be taught in English.

Prior knowledge requirements

None.

Literature

Literature used during the course will be theory papers on the Swedish films viewed, in order to underscore their contextual meaning, usually through excerpts from articles and essays.