

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY

Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies

Syllabus

Feminist posthumanism and new materialism

7.5 Credits

Code: GV1PONY

Finalized by: Institutionsstyrelsen vid institutionen för etnologi, religionshistoria och genusvetenskap, 2025-05-20

Valid from: Autumn semester 2025 (2025-09-01)

Level within study regulation: Third cycle

Course modules Feminist posthumanism and new materialism, 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 the field of feminist post-humanist and new materialist theories in order to critically reflect on and analyze from these perspectives, as well as gain a deeper insight into their possibilities and limitations.
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of ethical questions and positions within the field.
- Show the ability to engage in in-depth discussions on these perspectives and analytically apply them in personal projects.

3. Content

This course provides an introduction to the field of feminist posthumanism and new materialism, with a deeper exploration of its epistemological, ethical, and relational ontological approaches within a feminist

theoretical context. The course highlights both points of divergence and interdisciplinary considerations within the field.

Throughout the course, discussions focus on posthumanism's critical perspective on the anthropocentric and binary traditions of Western knowledge, its constructions of time and subjectivity, and the intra-actions between ecology, subjectivity, and ethics. Furthermore, the course examines new materialism's reclamation of the materiality of the body, its integrated concept of nature, as well as interpretations of art and the digital in relation to social processes.

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, seminars, and workshops on its themes and perspectives, in which feminist theories in posthumanism and new materialism are analyzed and discussed. Additionally, the course includes lectures and seminars with researchers who have experience in the field. At the end of the course, students present, discuss, and review each other's final assignments.

The course is given in English.