Arts in Sweden

This course deals with the history of art, architecture and design in Sweden. Spanning the best part of the last millennium, it provides a comprehensive overview of the art historical development of the country from the Middle Ages to the present.

Content

Through visits to historically interesting sites and museums, the students get the chance to see the result of Swedish artistic production from different epochs. These visits are complemented by lectures and seminars, accompanied by slides. Thus the student will get a more theoretical view on art, as well as preparation for, and analysis of the various field trips. Swedish art and architecture are compared to international equivalents. In addition, the course aims to link the development of Swedish art history to the development of society as a whole. The idea is to see art and architecture as integrated in society and not as anything isolated. History and society serve as a backdrop to the artistic expressions of different eras. Hence, this course asks the question "why?" as well as the questions "what?" and "when?"

The location of Uppsala is ideal. In and around town are many historical sites from different times and its proximity to Stockholm provides the possibility to visit numerous culturally significant sites in the capital.

Schedule

Week 1

Monday Course introduction

Tuesday Medieval architecture and art

Wednesday From medieval art to the Renaissance

Thursday Visit to the Uppsala Cathedral and the Museum Gustavianum

Week 2

Monday Art, heritage and national identity

Tuesday Visit to Nationalmuseum

Wednesday The 18th century: a Swedish ideal Thursday The 19th century in art and architecture

Week 3

Monday Art of the 20th century

Tuesday Architecture of the 20th century

Wednesday A visit to Moderna Museet, Stockholm

Thursday A visit to Bror Hjorths hus, Uppsala. Final seminar on location.

Prior knowledge requirements

None.

Language of instruction

This course is taught in English.

Course literature

A History of Swedish Art; Lindgren, Mereth a.o.