

Cross-Cultural Journalism and Arctic Ecology

- a term from January till June at the Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Finland, and Sami University College in Kautokeino, Norway

1. SWEDISH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, HELSINKI AND SURROUNDINGS FOR THE STUDIES

The Swedish School of Social Science (Soc&kom, 500 students) is an autonomous unit at the University of Helsinki (38 400 students), linked to the Faculty of Social Sciences. Studying at our School gives the benefits both of the cosy atmosphere of a small unit and of being part of the biggest university in Finland. The School offers Bachelor's degree programmes in the fields of Journalism, Social Work and Social Policy, Social Psychology and Psychology, Political Science and Law as well as some courses on Master's level. Our School is going through a strong internationalisation at the moment and we have every year about 25 incoming as well as outgoing exchange students.

In August 2009 Swedish School of Social Science will move to a new built building in the core city center of Helsinki (570 000 inhabitants, of which app 6% have Swedish as their first language), just in the middle of the Central Campus with libraries, university cafeterias (special rates for students) as well as sport facilities.

Helsinki is the capital of Finland (5,3 million inhabitants) and is situated on a peninsula with the Baltic Sea on three sides of downtown. The public transportation is very user friendly with fast connections with trams, metro as well as busses.

For the students at the University of Helsinki there are some 150 different associations, among which Erasmus Student Network (ESN – open for all exchange students) is very active arranging for the visiting students trips to among other places St-Petersburg (the second biggest town in Russia), daytrips by boat to Tallinn (capital of Estonia) and boat trips to Stockholm (capital in Sweden).

Applications for studying at the University of Helsinki should be made on-line between mid August and end of October (<http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange> or later in this information package). See also our homepage <http://sockom.helsinki.fi> for additional orientation and information. Interested students are advised to contact in advance Malin.Hauk@helsinki.fi.

2. COURSES WE OFFER FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS WITHIN THE GEJI-PROJECT

The Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki endorses the course at Sami University College, and combine it with the courses offered at the University of Helsinki, as follows:

In Helsinki, Finland, from 7 January until 31 March 2009

1. Introduction to the University of Helsinki and Finland, 2 ect

2. A. Foreign Correspondence in Practice, 5 ects
- B. Ethnicity, Representation and the Media, 5 ects
- C. International Journalism, 5 ects
- D. Journalism for Cultural Minorities, 5 ects

In the future possibly, but at least not in year 2009:

Ecological Modernisation and Rural Development, 5 ects or
Tourism and the Consuming Countryside, 5 ects

In Kautokeino, Norway, from 1 April to 30 June 2009

3. Reindeer Herders Vulnerability Network Study: Reindeer pastoralism in a changing climate, 10 ects
4. Journalistic practice in Gáldu Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous People, 5 ects

Course in Foreign Reporting at the Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki

The Foreign Reporting course is a theoretical and practical course aimed at providing students with the conceptual framework and the practical skills needed to work as a foreign reporter on assignment. The course puts emphasis on multiculturalism, ethnicity, cultural minorities and international journalism.

Feedback from course participants in Spring 2007:

"Many guest lectures were truly inspiring, and it's a very good idea that there is a real reporting trip."

"I really liked the dynamism of the course and the constant search for perspectives and angles of approaching the topic."

"It taught me a lot about how various groups of people are depicted in the media and the consequences thereof."

"[t]he course ... brought people from various parts of the world together"

"It was the greatest course I've ever participated in."

A total number of 18 Journalism/Communication students at advanced bachelor's / master's level will be accepted to the course, based on their applications. The students are usually coming from approx 8-10 different countries.

The Foreign Reporting Course consists of:

- An introduction week specifically for international students is held 7 – 12 January (2 ECTS credits).
 - Foreign Correspondent in Practice (5 ECTS credits)
 - International Journalism (5 ECTS credits)

- Ethnicity, Representation and the Media (5 ECTS credits)
- Journalism for Cultural Minorities (5 ECTS credits)

The course starts with an introduction week for foreign students, who will arrive in Helsinki and be accommodated on January 5 and 6. Note that January 6 is a national holiday when shops, institutions and the university are closed. On January 7 to 9 the students will get to know the university campus, learn how to use the university computer network, how to find books in libraries, visit the local populations register authorities as well as purchase a travel card and a student card.

Two of our students are every term functioning as tutors for the international students and help them with all practical questions to make the integration as smooth as possible. During these first days the exchange students also have a brief introduction to the languages spoken in Finland.

The Foreign Reporting course itself will start on January 12.

The course and its modules will take place mainly on weekdays during the day, with possible exceptions. Weekends are generally off. However, the assignments and the reporting trip to Estonia might take more time, depending on the students' individual programme.

2A. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE IN PRACTICE

Place: Swedish School of Social Science and for a week working assignments in Estonia.

Credits: 5 ECTS credits

Course content: The course is aimed at providing students with the conceptual framework and the practical skills needed to work as a foreign reporter on assignment. These include accessing sources in the country where assignments are carried out, report production and filing. Instructors and lecturers are drawn from both academic institutions and from the professional international press corps. Many of the course exercises and activities take place off the School's premises under actual working conditions.

The course consists of three parts:

- theory and practice of foreign reporting, using Finland as a laboratory environment
- an intensive introduction to the target area (Baltic States with emphasis on Estonia)
- working assignment(s) in Estonia and in Finland

Report trip research is expected to be carried out throughout the course.

Course coordinator: Alexander Ugglå, M. Soc. S

2B. INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISM

- Place: Swedish School of Social Science
Credits: 5 ECTS credits
Course content: The course in International Journalism has a double focus. First, it discusses the international news flows as documented in the flow studies since the 1950s. Further the course focuses on the dominant modes of journalism and their journey across cultures and national borders. Guest lectures and visits to media institutions will help to sharpen the view on the role of news journalism in present-day world. The basic aim is to elaborate on problems embedded in the ideals of objectivity, rapidity and the strict reporting modes that characterise internationally oriented news journalism. Thus basically the course deals with questions around journalistic professionalism. The students are expected to be acquainted with some of the course literature before the beginning of the course.
Examination: Course participants are examined on the basis of an essay (8-10 pages).
Lecturer: Ullamaija Kivikuru, Professor
Literature: (two of the following):

Barnhurst & Nerone (2001). *The Form of News*. Guilford.

Chatman (2005). *Comparative media history*. Polity.

Gillmor (2006). *We the media. Grassroots journalism by the people, for the people*. O'Reilly.

Hallain & Macini (2004). *Comparing Media Systems*. Cambridge University.

Thussu (2006). *International Communication. Continuity and change*. London & New York: Arnold & Oxford University Press.

2C. ETHNICITY, REPRESENTATION AND THE MEDIA

- Place: Swedish School of Social Science
Credits: 5 ECTS credits
Course content: This course will explore the role of the media in impacting upon personal identities and framing the politics of diversity in contemporary societies. Drawing upon mass communication research, cultural studies and social psychology the course will examine the means whereby the mass media may be partisan and biased in their representation of ethnic identities. Descriptive case studies of the ways in which the media may stereotype particular individuals and communities will be explored in relation to the routine practices of media production. In a comparable way the role of the media in framing events and providing a taken-for-

granted understanding of ethnic relations will be explored.

The professional context in which journalists generate news will be examined in relation to the concept of 'communities of practice'. The implications of this for the way in which media professionals negotiate both the professional ethics and their ethnic identities will be discussed.

Going beyond a concern with the specifics of media representation the course will also examine the question of what should be the role of the media in multi-cultural societies. The nature of the 'public sphere' in complex modern societies will be explored. Specifically, through case studies, the role of 'minority ethnic media' in multi-ethnic societies will be explored.

Examination: Course participants are examined on the basis of lecture participation, lecture diaries and an essay.

Lecturer: Charles Husband, Professor (University of Bradford)

Literature: J. Downing and C. Husband (2005). Representing 'Race'; London Sage.

Cottle (2000). Ethnic minorities and the Media. Buckingham: Open University Press.

EUMC (2002) Racism and Cultural Diversity in the Mass Media. Vienna: European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia

Heider, D. (2000) White News. London: Lawrence Erlbaum

Cottle, S. (1997) Television and Ethnic Minorities: Producers' Perspectives. Aldershot: Avebury

Browne, D.R. (2005) Ethnic Minorities, Electronic Media and the Public Sphere. Cresskill NJ: Hampton Press

Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies Vol. 31, No. 3 May 2005 special issue: 'Media and Minorities in Multicultural Europe'

2D. JOURNALISM FOR CULTURAL MINORITIES

Place: Swedish School of Social Science

Credits: 5 ECTS credits

Course contents: The objective of the course is

- to acquire insights in the most central conceptual and analytical tools required to understand and professionally cope with journalism and cultural diversity in different settings.
- to provide an insight in research presenting the role of journalism in cross-cultural conditions.
- to understand and cope in practice with the particular challenges and features of journalistic work in cross-cultural conditions.

The approach is to discuss and contrast different angles to cross-cultural encounters in journalism: insider perspectives and outsider perspectives; the aspect of media use and the aspect of media production; the functional aspects of the media and journalism in different cultural settings.

During the course we work with concrete examples that actually have been published or broadcast in order to detect, identify and analyse mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion of culturally distinct groups. We also look at research on how the media addresses such situations, including how the media represent and affect ethnicity and race; immigrant- and diasporic communities; linguistic diversity and minority languages; citizens and cultures of other states.

The course also discusses particular challenges of journalistic work in media that address a culturally distinct audience. The concept of readership is deconstructed with the help of a typology portraying uni-, bi-, and multicultural audiences in different contexts.

The participants are invited to actively use their own experience and apply the concepts introduced in the module by writing/filming reportage and presenting their work in a workshop.

Examination: Journalistic assignments and course essay

Lecturer: Tom Moring, Professor

Literature: Hannerz, Ulf (2004). *Foreign News. Exploring the World of Foreign Correspondents*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Robins, Kevin (2006). *The challenge of transcultural diversities. Transversal study on the theme of cultural policy and cultural diversity. Final report*. Strasbourg: Cultural and Cultural Heritage Department, Council of Europe Publishing.

[A Diversity Toolkit](#) for Factual Programmes in Public Service Television. The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

Cormack, Mike & Niamh Hourigan (Eds.) *Minority Language Media: Concepts, Critiques and Case Studies*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters Ltd.

Journal articles as agreed with the lecturer.

2E. ECOLOGICAL MODERNISATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 5ECTS

Contents	The course will address the following key themes associated with the social science of the environment and rural development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ecological modernization theory and rural development • the changing European rural policy agenda • food production and consumption • sustainable rural development: agriculture and forestry • rural development social science
Study materials and literature	A complete reading list and extensive information on the course will be announced later.
Completion	Course participants are examined on the basis of essays and WebCT-site participation. For 7 credits a final essay is required.
Responsible person	International Reader and Kjell Andersson, Senior Lecturer in Sociology.
Realisation and working methods	The course starts with a one day opening session in period 3 and ends with a one day seminar in period 4 where essays written on distance will be discussed. The course will basically be given as a distant learning course in a WebCT environment where students are working according to guidelines given by the course leader and an assistant teacher. The course is also part of the national Rural Studies programme.

2F. TOURISM AND THE CONSUMPTION COUNTRYSIDE, 5 ECTS

Contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • theorizing consumption countryside • diversified rural economy • regulating the consumption countryside • developers and protectionists • the history of vacationing • sociological theories of travelling and tourism
Study materials and literature	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. T. Marsden, The Consuming Countryside and its Regulations. Sociologia Ruralis vol. 39, no 4, pp. 501-526, and Andersson, K., Introductory article " in Andersson, K., New Rural Goods and Services - the Foundation of the New Countryside? Helsinki 2007. 2. Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning, Special issue on the RURBAN project, 2008. 3. Löfgren, O., On Holiday. Berkeley 1999. 320 s. 4. Meethan, K., Tourism in Global Society Place, Culture, Consumption. New York 2001. 176 s.
Completion	Examination based on course literature.
Responsible person	Kjell Andersson, Senior Lecturer in Sociology.

3. PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

On-line Application Form

- The Application Form for Exchange Students is an on-line form. Click for [Student Exchange Application Form for Spring 2009](#)
- After completing the on-line Form
 - Please remember to save or print your Learning agreement
 - Press FINISH (send the form).
 - You will receive by e-mail a confirmation on the reception of the application form.
- Ask your home university coordinator to sign the Learning agreement
- Fax the Learning agreement and the official Transcript of Credits to the International Student Mobility Services at the latest on the deadline (November 1)
- Fax number +358-9-191 22176.

For further information, please, visit <http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/>

Housing

The International Student Mobility Services arranges together with HOAS (Foundation for Student Housing in Helsinki Region) housing for exchange students who have applied at the latest on the deadline. You can apply for housing on the Application Form for Exchange Students

The flats are partly furnished with a bed, table, chair as well as a kitchen to be shared with usually two other students. The rents (180-450 €) are in comparison to those on the private market very moderate and the flats are situated over the whole city.

Applications for the academic year 2009-10 onwards will be made directly via www.hoas.fi.

Teaching periods

The academic year is divided into **four seven-week teaching periods** – each beginning and ending simultaneously throughout the University. There is a week's break between each of the periods. Teaching organised in the summer does not belong to the teaching periods. Examinations and special courses may, however, be arranged outside the teaching periods.

Teaching periods of the University of Helsinki during the academic year 2008-2009 are as follows:

- Autumn term, I period: September 1 to October 19
One-week interval: October 20 to October 26
- Autumn term, II period: October 27 to December 14
Christmas break
- Spring term, III period: January 12 to March 1
One-week interval: March 2 to March 8

- Spring term, IV period: March 9 to May 17 (Including the Easter break and a two-week intensive period)

Arrival Dates and Pick-up Service

- January 3-6, 2009 as the Introduction Course will start on the 7 January 2009
- December 12, 2008 is the last day to apply for this service

Links:

Information on Swedish School of Social Science:

<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/>

Information on the course Foreign Reporting:

<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/forrep/>

Information on applying:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/>

Orientation Handbook:

http://www.helsinki.fi/admissions/materials/orientation_handbook.pdf

Erasmus Student Network (trips & parties):

<http://www.helsinki.fi/hyy/esn/>

City of Helsinki:

<http://www.helsinki.fi>

Helsinki tourism:

<http://www.hel2.fi/tourism/EN/matko.asp>

Virtual Finland:

<http://virtual.finland.fi/>

Discover Finland:

<http://finland.cimo.fi/>

Visit Estonia (for the Foreign Correspondence in Practice course):

<http://www.visitestonia.com/>

Contact:

If you have questions, please, contact Malin Hauk, International Planning Officer at Swedish School of Social Science

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Phone: +358 9 19128430

<http://sockom.helsinki.fi>