Media Technology

Study plan for third-cycle subject

The subject plan was approved by Fakultetsnämnden (Faculty Board) November 30, 2010. Valid from Spring 11.

Subject title

Media Technology (Medieteknik)

Subject description and programme outcomes

Scientific field

Mediated Communication as a research area, includes technology and methods that support human communication over distances in time and space. The subject area includes a broad spectrum of related, often multidisciplinary, subareas. For instance, media production, content and design in media, media use, media-related gender and intersectional theory, cultural critique from a media perspective, financial aspects, and media development. Within all subareas, the technological sciences meet other disciplines, and an understanding of cooperation between the different disciplinary domains is necessary within the subject. The subject changes and develops continuously concurrently with the general developments in the society and within the area of technology.

Description of possible specialisation

1. Mediated Communication and Graphic Production
2. Communication, media design and cultural theory

Specification of how the programme outcomes are to be achieved

Mediated Communication and Graphic Production

Description of the specialisation

The education for third-cycle studies in Mediated Communication and Graphic Production have aims to build specialist competence within subject area directed towards research and advanced developmental work. Considering the broadness and the constant change within the subject area, the aims are both to give a broad perspective on media, media industry, and mediated communication, and at the same time
provide a specialization within one or several subareas. Emphasis is also put on the development of interdisciplinary and humanistic understanding. The education is organized in a matter that it’s possible to adapt it to the individual doctoral student’s field of interest.

**Current research**

Research in Mediated Communication at KTH is held at the department of Media Technology and Interaction Design at the school for Computer Science and Communication, CSC. The education for third-cycle studies in the subject should be linked to current research. There is information about the current research specializations on the website of the department, or can be obtained of the head of subject.

**Programme structure**

The education for third-cycle studies includes a total of at least 120 credits for Licentiate degree, and 240 credits for Doctoral degree, and consists of a course module and a thesis.

A doctoral degree includes courses of 60-90 credits and a licentiate degree includes courses corresponding to 40-60 credits. Deviation from the suggested number of credits can occur in the case of extraordinary circumstances. Courses for third-cycle studies can be given in the form of lectures, seminars, literature courses and project assignments. The courses for each individual doctoral student are established individually in consultation with principal supervisors and, when necessary, head of subject. An individual study plan is established within six months after admission and is updated annually. The study plan specifies how the aims for the education are to be achieved for third-cycle studies. The doctoral student should start thesis as soon as possible after admission. The thesis corresponds 150-180 credits for the doctoral degree and 60-80 credits for licentiate degree. The subject for the thesis should be chosen in consultation with principal supervisors and, when necessary, head of subject, and should connect to the research at the department. The doctoral student has, apart from a main supervisor, one or several assistant supervisors in the subject area of the thesis. Students in third-cycle studies should take part in, and contribute to, the scientific and educational activities at the department.

**Compulsory and recommended courses**

A course in research methodology or theory of science should be included in the doctoral studies.

No other courses are compulsory, but the study plan is established individually for each and every doctoral student. The courses in the study plan should be chosen in a manner that they cover both the specialization within the own research domain, and the multidisciplinary width.

KTH’s regulations for third-cycle studies regulate how courses on different levels may be included in the doctoral studies.

**Thesis**

Licentiate thesis is based on research, or diagnostic work within some of the subject area’s subareas. The thesis can either be designed as a compilation of scientific articles, or as a monographic thesis. Usually, a compilation thesis includes at least three articles. There is a strong emphasis on a logical and rhetorically
distinct presentation of the results of the thesis. The licentiate thesis as a whole or its parts may be included in a future doctoral thesis. The licentiate thesis must be published, presented and reviewed at a public seminar.

Doctoral thesis is based on research within some of the subject area's subareas.

The thesis can either be designed as a compilation of scientific articles, or as a monographic thesis, including an introduction and a summary. Usually, a compilation thesis includes at least three articles.

The thesis should be written in English, and the main scientific results should correspond to the quality requirements for publications in internationally renowned papers or conferences with referee system. There is a strong emphasis on a logical and rhetorically distinct presentation of the results of the thesis. The thesis must be published, presented and reviewed at a public defence of the doctoral thesis.

Communication, media design and cultural theory

Description of the specialisation

Doctoral studies in communication, media design and cultural theory aim to provide high competence within subject area. Considering the broadness and the constant change - the aim of the education is to give both a broad perspective on communication and critical cultural theory, processes and methods for media design and mediated communication, and a specialization within one or several subareas. The development of interdisciplinary, humanistic and artistic understanding are emphasized. The education is organized in a matter that it's possible to adapt it to the individual doctoral student's field of interest.

Current research

Research in mediated communication, media design and cultural theory at KTH are held at the department for Media Technology and Interaction Design at the School for Computer Science and Communication, CSC. The doctoral education in the subject should be linked to current research. There is information about the current research specializations on the website of the department, or are obtained from the head of subject.

Programme structure

The education for third-cycle studies includes a total at least 120 credits for Licentiate degree, and 240 credits for Doctoral degree, and consists of a course module and a thesis.

A doctoral degree includes courses of 60-90 credits and a licentiate degree includes courses corresponding to 40-60 credits. Deviation from the suggested number of credits can occur in the case of extraordinary circumstances. Courses for third-cycle studies can be given in the form of lectures, seminars, literature courses and project assignments. The courses are established for each and every doctoral student individually in consultation with main supervisor and, when necessary, head of subject. An individual study plan is established within six months after admission and is updated annually.

The study plan specifies how the aims for the doctoral studies should be achieved.
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The writing of the thesis should start as soon as possible after admission. The thesis corresponds to 150-180 credits for Doctoral degree, and 60-80 credits for the Licentiate degree. The subject for the thesis should be chosen in consultation with main supervisor and, when necessary, head of subject, and should connect to the research at the department. The doctoral student has, apart from a main supervisor, one or several assistant supervisors.

Students in third-cycle studies should take part in, and contribute to, the scientific and educational activities at the department.

Compulsory and recommended courses

A course in research methodology or theory of science should be included in the doctoral studies.

No other courses are compulsory, but the study plan is established individually for each and every doctoral student. The courses in the study plan should be chosen in a manner that they cover both the specialization within the own research domain, and the multidisciplinary width.

In KTH's local regulations for the higher education qualifications for third-cycle studies be regulated how courses in different levels may be included in a higher education qualification.

Thesis

The licentiate thesis is based on research or diagnostic work within some of the subject area's subareas. The thesis can either be designed as a compilation of scientific articles, or as a monographic thesis, including an introduction and a summary. Usually, a compilation thesis should include at least three publications. There is a strong emphasis on a logical and rhetorically distinct presentation of the results of the thesis. The licentiate thesis or its parts may be included in a future doctoral thesis. The thesis must be published, presented and reviewed at a public seminar.

The doctoral thesis is based on research within some of the subject area's subareas. The thesis can either be designed as a compilation of scientific articles, or as a monographic thesis, including an introduction and a summary. Usually, a compilation thesis should include about four publications. The thesis must be written in English, and the main scientific results must meet the quality requirements for publications in internationally renowned papers or conferences with referee system. There is a strong emphasis on a logical and rhetorically distinct presentation of the results of the thesis. The thesis should be reviewed, published and defended at a public public defence of doctoral thesis.

Entry requirements and selection

General and special admission requirements and prior knowledge

The general qualification requirements to be admitted to doctoral studies is a master's degree, 240 university credits of which 60 university credits at an advanced level. This requirement is also met if the applicant has acquired equivalent knowledge. The faculty council may make exceptions to the general qualification requirements for a particular applicant if there are special reasons. To be eligible for the doctoral programme in Mediated Communication the applicant must have relevant engineering- or master's degree or have acquired knowledge equivalent to 240 credits within related areas. Apart from
relevant academic degree special subject knowledge is required within media and communication technology or related fields. This knowledge may be acquired through general academic education or in some other way.

To be eligible for doctoral studies a capacity for, and an ability to third-cycle is required. Furthermore, a qualified person must have accepted the responsibility to supervise the applicant.

**Selection rules and procedures**

The rules for the selection are established by the director of doctoral studies.

**The programme’s degrees and examinations**

**Degree of Licentiate and Degree of Doctor (PhD)**

Graduation for the Licentiate degree and the Doctoral degree is carried out in accordance to KTH's regulations.

**The programme’s examinations**

No other compulsory tests are included in the education.