



AK1203 Industrial History - Society in Transition 7.5 credits

Industrihistoria - Samhällets omvandling

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for AK1203 valid from Autumn 2007

Grading scale

A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Education cycle

First cycle

Main field of study

Technology

Specific prerequisites

Applicants registered on a regular KTH programme are eligible.

For applicants not registered on a regular KTH programme: Documented completed upper secondary education, including proficiency in Swedish and English.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

When completing the course the student will:

- know the fundamental features of the process of industrialisation in Sweden and in the world,
- master the required knowledge to conduct critical discussions about the relation between industrial society and post-industrial society,
- be able to use fundamental tools for field analysis of industrial sites and industrial buildings,
- be able to conduct a delimited industrial-historical study out of several types of sources,
- be able to use theoretical and methodological tools from the field of industrial history to present the results of the study in written form.

Course contents

This course searches for the roots of society's ongoing transformations in the industrial society's own history. We contrast globalisation and contemporary technological change with historical change since the early days of industrialism. What actually in the new society is new? How new is that novelty, and which features are indeed remainders of the past? This course focuses on people, the built environment, landscapes, production, work and lifestyle. We will visit old and new historical industrial sites; interpret the marks of industry in art, literature and film; and discuss the changed status and content of engineering as a profession.

Disposition

This course consists of three items: Lectures, seminars and fieldwork. Fieldwork is conducted both in selected industrial-historical sites and in archives and libraries. We will also use the exhibitions, collections of objects, documents, photos and literature at the Museum of Science and Technology in Stockholm.

Course literature

The course literature consists of books and articles (approx. 600-700 p.) that explain the transition in society, give examples of the transformation of industrial sites and deal with methodological issues.

Equipment

None.

Examination

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

The examination of this course consists of an essay(10-15 pp). The student is also required to comment on another course participant's essay in written and oral form; write a short reflection on an excursion or a short book review; and to participate actively in the seminars.

In preparation for each lecture, the student need to write half a page about different questions based on the course literature.

Other requirements for final grade

Lecture attendance and active participation in the seminars and fieldworks are required to pass the course. The fieldwork is concluded by an essay that is examined in a seminar.

The course is graded A-F

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.