SWEDEN

Ph.D. dissertations

Abalo, Ernesto. / *Through a post-political gaze: on the ideological loading of democracy in the coverage of Chávez's Venezuela*. Örebro: Örebro university, 2015. 124 s. ISBN 9789175290836

Rooted in ideology critique, this dissertation studies the construction of democracy in the coverage of Venezuela during the era of President Hugo Chávez. The aim of this endeavor is twofold. First, the dissertation aims to understand the relationship between ideology and the construction of democracy in journalism on foreign political phenomena. Second, it attempts to explore the ways in which the relationship between ideology and democracy in journalism serves to legitimize or delegitimize the struggle for social justice in nations in the global South vis-à-vis the political and economic fundamentals of global capitalism.
The dissertation comprises three articles that study the construction of democracy in depictions of the Venezuelan political system and its key political actors. Article I studies the construction of (il)legitimate democracy in relation to the Venezuelan government, Article II explores the construction of difference between Chávez's supporters and his opponents, and Article III studies the coverage of the coup d'état against Chávez in 2002. All three articles are methodologically rooted in critical discourse analysis and rely on materials from a sample of three elite newspapers: Dagens Nyheter (Sweden), El País (Uruguay), and the New York Times (US).

No full text

Achachlouei, Mohammad Ahmadi . / *Exploring the effects of ICT on environmental sustainability: from life cycle assessment to complex systems modeling*. Stockholm: KTH Royal Institute of Technology, 2015. 66 s. ISBN 978-91-7595-653-4.

The production and consumption of information and communication technology (ICT) products and services continue to grow worldwide. This trend is accompanied by a corresponding increase in electricity use by ICT, as well as

direct environmental impacts of the technology. Yet a more complicated picture of ICT's effects is emerging. Positive indirect effects on environmental sustainability can be seen in substitution and optimization (enabling effects), and negative indirect effects can be seen in additional demand due to efficiency improvements (rebound effects).

A variety of methods can be employed to model and assess these direct and indirect effects of ICT on environmental sustainability. This doctoral thesis explores methods of modeling and assessing environmental effects of ICT, including electronic media. In a series of five studies, three methods were at times applied in case studies and at others analyzed theoretically. These methods include life cycle assessment (LCA) and complex systems modeling approaches, including System Dynamics (SD) and agent-based (AB) modeling.

In conclusion, first-order or direct environmental effects of ICT production, use, and disposal can be assessed employing an LCA method. This method can also be used to assess second-order or enabling effects by comparing ICT applications with conventional alternatives. However, the assessment of enabling effects can benefit from systems modeling methods, which are able to formally describe the drivers of change, as well as the dynamics of complex social, technical, and environmental systems associated with ICT applications. Such systems methods can also be used to model third-order or rebound effects

[Fulltext >>](Fulltext)

Axell, Cecilia . / *Barnlitteraturens tekniklandskap: en didaktisk vandring från Nils Holgersson till Pettson och Findus* [Technology landscapes in children's literature: A Didactic Journey from Nils Holgersson to Pettson and Findus]. Linköping: Linköpings universitet, 2015. 385 s. ISBN 978-91-7519-227-7.

Syftet med denna studie är att utifrån ett didaktiskt perspektiv undersöka budskap om teknik i ett urval svenska skönlitterära barnböcker samt undersöka hur berättelsernas tekniksyner förhåller sig till deras natur- respektive framtidssyn. Analyserna grundar sig på sex svenska författares skönlitterära barnböcker: Selma Lagerlöf, Otto Witt, Elsa Beskow, Karl-Aage Schwartzkopf, Sven Wernström och Sven Nordqvist. Dessa böcker innehåller frågeställningar och problematiker som i dag anses betydelsefulla och relevanta inom teknikens didaktik. Studien har tre analytiska perspektiv: att identifiera tekniken som finns representerad i barnböckerna, att undersöka barnböckernas tekniksyner i förhållande till natur och framtid samt att finna gemensamma och särskiljande teman berättelserna emellan. Analyserna visar att de olika tekniksynerna i barnböckerna är mångfacetterade. Hur tekniken gestaltas kan delas in i sex övergripande teman: tekniken som metafor eller liknelse, som antropomorf, som autonom, som resultat av kreativ drivkraft, männens teknik samt som icke

tidsbunden. Det förekommer också olika syn på teknik och dess inverkan på såväl individ som samhälle. Natursynen som dominerar kan beskrivas som svagt antropocentrisk och en majoritet av berättelserna förmedlar bilden av det effektiva framtidssamhället där tekniken löser människans problem. En slutsats är att barnlitteraturens tekniklandskap kan bidra till att både vidga och fördjupa det teknikdidaktiska perspektivet. Det ambivalenta budskapet i böckerna gör att teknikens mångskiftande natur lyfts fram samt problematiseras på ett sätt som läroböcker sällan gör. Skönlitterära barnböcker skulle därför kunna fungera som utgångspunkter för didaktiska diskussioner om teknikens natur samt dess inverkan på människa, samhälle och natur i såväl nutid som dåtid.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Barrett, James. / *The ergodic revisited: spatiality as a governing principle of digital literature.* Umeå: Umeå University, 2015. 254 s. ISBN 978-91-7601-283-3.

This dissertation examines the role of the spatial in four works of digital interactive literature. These works are Dreamaphage by Jason Nelson (2003), Last Meal Requested by Sachiko Hayashi (2003), Façade by Michael Mateas and Andrew Stern (2005) and Egypt: The Book of Going Forth by Day by M. D. Coverley (2006). The study employs an original analytical method based on close reading and spatial analysis, which combines narrative, design and interaction theories. The resulting critique argues that the spatial components of the digital works define reader interaction and the narratives that result from it. This is one of very few in-depth studies grounded in the close reading of the spatial in digital interactive literature. Over five chapters, the dissertation analyzes the four digital works according to three common areas.
The dissertation argues for the dominance of the spatial as a factor within the formation of narrative through interaction in digital literature, with implications across contemporary storytelling and narrative theory.

[Fulltext>>](#)

Bergander, Anna Lindqvist . / *Att göra literacy online och offline: digitala medier i barns kamratkulturer.* Uppsala: Uppsala universitet : Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, 2015. 175 s., ISBN (elektronisk) 9789155492618.

This video ethnographies study examines the everyday interaction of two groups of children (aged between 10 and 13) as they use digital media in their spare time. One group of boys has been studied in their recreation centre and one group of girls has been studied at home and at the stable. The participants have

different social and cultural affiliations. The purpose of the study is to examine how the children in the different groups organize their peer cultures as they participate with other children in different kinds of digital literacy events. Furthermore, the study aims at examining what kind of competencies the children display when they participate in these digital literacy events. Theoretically, and in the analysis of the material, the study is based on New literacy studies, in which literacy is approached as a social, cultural and situated practice.

The study shows that the children in the two groups develop different forms of technical and social literacy competencies that draws on their experiences, hobbies and participation in local practices. Through their participation the children strengthen relationships and organize their peer cultures. Their digital literacy events also involve navigating on the internet, communication with friends via internet as well as critically evaluating information on the internet in interaction with their peers.

Fulltext >>

Billmayer, Jacob. / *Ska dörren vara öppen?: Disciplin i klassrummet i Sverige och Tyskland,* 2015. 246 s.

The aim of this study is to investigate discipline in German and Swedish classrooms and describe its cultural contexts.
Starting with Alfred Schütz' concept of ideal types and Niklas Luhmann's theory on mass media, it is argued that culture can be observed through the products of mass media. The empirical data for this study consists of field studies in the form of observations in German and Swedish classrooms as well as the examination of German and Swedish films and television series about teachers and students. The classroom observations were used to create ideal typical descriptions of different implementations of disciplinary procedure. Based on the analysis of teacher figures in various German and Swedish films and television series, several "good" and "bad" teacher types were initially identified. Combining the two results allowed conclusions to be made about correlations between disciplinary order and whether a teacher is considered "good" or "bad". This review of the various types of order is the basis for the description of cultural contexts. The results of classroom observations and film studies and their discussion in relation to prior Swedish research, gives the picture of a cultural context in which various forms of classroom order are available, in which they are critically discussed and also can exist in parallel to each other. On the other hand, the German context seems to allow only one form of classroom order, both in actual school operations as well as in the mass media representation and scientific reflection.

Fulltext >>

Bloom, Karin. / *Cordelia, 1881-1942: profilo storico di una rivista per ragazze*. [En flicktidnings historia]. Stockholm: Stockholms universitet, 2015. 244 s. ISBN 978-91-7649-130-0.

The purpose of this dissertation is to conduct a study of the history of the girls' magazine Cordelia (1881-1942), founded in Florence by Angelo De Gubernatis. The analysis mainly focuses on the years 1881-1917; however, the latter period is also briefly treated. The theoretical framework consists of sociology of literature and gender history; the dissertation belongs to the field of history of publishing, which is integrated with a gender historical perspective. The methodological challenges faced when dealing with periodicals as research objects are also considered. In order to achieve bibliographic control and examine Cordelia's contents and contributors, all issues of the magazine's first 36 years were indexed. The study examines the commercial strategies of the magazine's publishers, as well as the contributions of the chief editors and writers involved in the making of the magazine. Attention is drawn to the personal relationships between the individuals in these groups. As is shown, the magazine was not very successful in its first three years of publication, during the editorship of De Gubernatis. The two editors who followed, Ida Baccini and Jolanda (pseudonym for Maria Maiocchi Plattis), did succeed, however, in creating a familiar and attractive product for the young female public and to involve them in their magazine. Quantitative surveys of the contributors and contents have shown, for instance, that Baccini and Jolanda relied on regular contributions from relatively few writers and also published serial fiction to arouse the readers' interest. Their comprehension of the potential of the periodical and the importance of their gender in addressing their readers, together with the capacity of long-time publisher Cappelli to develop commercial strategies to boost sales, seem to have been the reason for the

Fulltext >>

Bremmer, Magnus. / *Konsten att tämja en bild: fotografiet och läsarens uppmärksamhet i 1800-talets Sverige.* Lund: Lunds universitet, 2015. 336 s. ISBN 978-91-981961-3-9, ISBN (elektronisk) 978-91-981961-3-3.

The present study inquires into the problematization of attention in the reception and distribution of photography in 19th-century Sweden. It investigates how photography's alleged abundance of detail and indiscriminate reproduction became a problem in the reception of the medium. The problem became urgent when photographs were put to use by established discourses; specifically, when used in printed publications meant for a public. The thesis therefore argues that the problem of attention had a profound influence on how printed photographic or photographically illustrated editions (photo-texts) were modelled and

arranged. For this purpose, the study affirms a particular focus on attention practices: the various ways in which the printed editions aim to regulate the reader's attention before the supposedly distractive image. Specifically, the thesis focuses on how texts in these printed editions are arranged or juxtaposed in relation to the image, how they speak of and to the images, what values they reflect, and what effects they could be said to produce. Consequently, the present study is more than an investigation of a problem; it is also an inquiry into the various attempts to overcome this problem. The problem and its responsive practices will have different characteristics in the various contexts of individual discourses. Therefore, the study situates the problem of attention in four prominent genres of 19th-century photography: the topographical albums of photographic views, art books with photographic reproductions, the scientific atlas, and the photographically illustrated travelogue. These genres and forms of publication, as well as the discourses of attention relating to them, are discussed in separate chapters. Every chapter departs from a specific Swedish photographic edition from the nineteenth-century.In sum, the thesis aims – with its focus on the problematization of attention – at giving a new historical perspective on the emergent relation between photography and the printed word.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Ehlin, Elisabeth. / *Becoming image: perspectives on digital culture, fashion and technofeminism*. Stockholm: Stockholm Universitet, 2015. 71 s. ISBN 978-91-7649-287-1.

Focusing on women and social media, *Becoming Image* examines the way material and immaterial aspects of images overlap in everyday life. Rather than artistic intention, emotions and basic human interaction often lie at heart of becoming image. Fashion is, however, highly present in this critical transformation. Not only as collaborative projects emerge out of combining new technologies and dress – such as using your smartphone to elevate your clothing – but also how fashion is a technology itself. Fashion highlights the body as medium, but fashion is also always (mostly) image. Previous research around the digital image and its meaning has often stressed the banality of everyday image practices as taking selfies. However, these debates represent deeper cultural values and norms, which the dissertation reaches beyond. As women, and also queer and trans-people increasingly innovate and interfere with normative technological usage, it becomes evident that such groups have been excluded from communities organized around technological power and skill. As with language, technology and digital imagery are not neutral media. Women have hence been excluded – and been forced to use instruments and apps seemingly made for strict masculine purposes. Arguably, image practices such as selfies or image micro-blogging encourage women to "write" themselves out of a world they have not constructed themselves. Thus, Becoming Image

simultaneously illuminates the structural and fundamental levels of technology and gender – while also suggesting new methodological and theoretical ways of studying and approaching digital media.

Fulltext >>

Eek-Karlsson, Liselotte. / *Ungas samspel I sociala medier: att balansera mellan ansvar och positionering*. Växjö: Linnaeus University Press, /(Linnaeus University Dissertations; 228) 2015. 194 s. ISBN 978-91-87925-78-8

This dissertation includes three studies. The first study investigates support and harassment online (for example, insults). The second study is conducted for the purpose of revealing the discursive patterns in young people's argumentation, based on a series of interviews. Finally, a text analysis of Facebook's policy document was performed, with focus on the democratic values that are mediated via this document. The overall result is that considerably more young people feel that they are supported in social media, than those who are harassed. Both a supportive culture and a harassing culture can be defined however. The more often young people support their friends, the more often they find themselves to be the recipient of support. The same relationship pertains for harassing communication. Reciprocity, respect, and being responsible are dominant themes in a close circle of friends. In interaction with friends who are not members of the close circle of friends, communication is characterised by asymmetry and control. The imposition of discipline takes place as a function of both gender and status. The risk of being subject to reprisals is great, if the prevailing system of norms is violated. Young people's social interaction in virtual spaces tends to be dominated by marketization where strategic behaviour, which primarily is a function of the individual's social position and profit interest, is observed.

Fulltext >>

Falasca, Kajsa Larsson. / *Context matters: interactions between news media, political actors and citizens in elections and crises*. Sundsvall: Mid Sweden University, 2015. 149 s. ISBN 978-91-88025-23-4

This dissertation addresses some of the issues raised by political communications scholars concerning the relevance of foundational theories in the field. It revisits a number of classical theories of political communication in the Swedish media environment. Furthermore, the studies presented also investigate various contexts of an expanded field in political communication research.

The dissertation consists of introduction and five separate articles. All articles

focus on the Swedish case and the different articles focus on different aspects of political communication and the relationship between political actors, the news media and citizens. The purpose is to investigate theoretical claims regarding the increased mediatization of news media, the influence of news media on citizens, and political actors' interaction with news media and citizens. The theories in the studies thus apply to different areas of the political communication field. The different articles focus on the importance of contextual features in research.
In sum, the separate articles of the dissertation empirically investigate and test theories that apply to different areas of the political communication field.

Fulltext >>

Forsberg, Anette. / *Sorgens avtryck: erfarenheter av medverkan som sörjande i journalistik om brott och olyckor* [The impact of grief: experiences of participating as a mourner in the news]. Stockholm, 2015. 254 s. ISBN 9789176490723.

The aim of the thesis is to investigate the experiences of mourners of participating in news reports about grief in connection with crime and accidents. There are two overarching research questions. How do the bereaved experience their encounters with, and treatment by, journalists - what do they think of journalists' motives, strategies, methods and ethics? How do the bereaved use journalism, i.e. what are their motives and strategies for participation, and how do they perceive their relations with journalists and the consequences of having been interviewed?
The empirical material is comprised of qualitative interviews with 22 respondents who featured, in their capacity as mourners, in Swedish news reports of deaths connected with crime and accidents.
The findings are ambivalent in that journalists' methods were experienced positively by some respondents and negatively by others. Involvement in news reporting can offer redress, giving respondents a chance to pay tribute to the deceased. It can also provide comfort, as it can be incorporated into the mourning process and make it possible to share one's grief both with people one knows and with strangers. The study also found that respondents have strategies of their own. In their dealings with journalists, they can negotiate for control by insisting on reading the text before publication or favouring journalists they perceive as more sympathetic and resisting those they dislike.

Fulltext >>

Johansson, Linus. / *Taking it as a man?: music, youth, and gender, outside and within mainstream media cultures*. Uppsala: Visibla, 2015. 348 s.

This thesis focuses on the early years of the new millennium, a time of pessimism and conflict around file-sharing and other illegal activities, but also a time for renewed thinking and enthusiasm regarding the potential of the prospering information and communication age. The thesis serves two main purposes. The first purpose is to (re)consider methodologies regarding cultural theory and critical analysis in order to transgress traditional disciplinary boundaries within and around this area of scholarly research. The second purpose is to show how popular music of late comes to pass in medial contexts. Two relatively young music constellations (at that time) are presented as case studies, in which a substantial amount of attention is drawn to cultural theory and critical analysis.

Overall, the analytical accounts stem from post Marxist cultural critiques, as well as gender research and analyses of intertextuality using music theory. The musical production presented in the case studies is thus observed amongst other musical recordings and related music within a larger historical framework of musical style and genre. The analyses also reveal a multitude of explicit strategies and implicit tactics towards the cultural hegemony of the globalizing music industry.

Fulltext >>

Hedman Monstad, Therese. / *Attempts to bidge the gaps: Opportunities and challenges in the communicative constitution of organizations.* Uppsala: Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, 2015. 251 s. ISBN 978-91-554-9167-3.

Globalization and technological advancements continue to challenge contemporary organizations' aims to balance stability and change. As a response to this challenge, organizations often turn to empowerment and participatory processes. Current research emphasizes the need for enhanced communication in these processes. However, there is a lack of research studying how organizations practically enact this idea that these processes require more communication.This dissertation is aligned with the Montreal School's CCO perspective and departs from communication theory seen as a dialogic of conversation and text, thus directing attention to coorientation and how organizational members coordinate in organizing processes. Based on this theoretical framework, the study aims to contribute to a better understanding – empirically as well as analytically – about the variety of texts that are a part of communicative initiatives aiming at enhancing communication, encouraging participation and empowerment processes.
The empirical material is based on how two organizations explicitly emphasized

communicative initiatives throughout each organization's empowerment process attempts. One organization mainly used workshops to provide opportunities for communication, while the other organization incorporated an interactive video website for the same purpose. This dissertation acknowledges that managers and subordinates are not equally capable of discursively constructing the organization.

The study combines two theoretical frameworks, the empowerment process model and the Montreal School's CCO perspective, extending both and thereby accentuating the communication-power relationship.

Fulltext >>

Lindroth, Tomas. / *Being multisituated: Characterizing laptoping in networked situations.* Göteborg: Gothenburg Studies in Informatics, 2015. 73 s. ISBN 978-91-982069-2-0.

During the last 30 years mobile IT has gone from being an exotic ingredient to an everyday artifact. This thesis presents an ethnographic study of laptop use in a university setting. The thesis concludes that it is no longer enough to describe the use of portable IT as an activity in its own right, i.e. using a laptop computer as an activity similar to reading a book or writing an essay. Additionally, describing a person as merely a user of digital technology fails to capture the intervowenness between the technology, situation, person and other actors. In order to find more nuanced answers about laptop use the thesis discuss what characterize the use of laptops in everyday life. With support from Actor-Network Theory, the Interaction Order and Experiential computing the thesis explores the hybrid combination of a person-laptop. The contribution is a framework of the driving forces behind the laptoper's everyday activities. Additionally a model of the networked situation is presented, that uncovers the effects of the laptoper over time, that is, the laptoping process. The contribution is a framework with key characteristics and typified interactions where the multisituated and network dimensions are understood as fundamental elements of hybrid interaction.

Fulltext >>

Lund, Arwid. / *Frihetens rike: Wikipedianer om sin praktik, sitt produktionssätt och kapitalismen.* Hägersten: Tankekraft förlag, 2015. 670 s. ISBN 978-91-88203-09-0 .

This study is about voluntary productive activities in digital networks and on digital platforms that often are described as pleasurable. The aim of the study is to relate the peer producers' perceptions of their activities on a micro level in

terms of play, game, work and labour, to their views on Wikipedia's relation to capitalism on a macro level, to compare the identified ideological formations on both levels and how they relate to each other, and finally compare the identified ideological formations with contemporary Marxist theory on cognitive capitalism. The intention is to perform a critical evaluation of the economic role of peer production in society.Qualitative and semi-structured interviews with eight Wikipedians active within the Swedish language version of Wikipedia constitute the empirical base of the study together with one public lecture by a Wikipedian on the encyclopaedia and a selection of pages in the encyclopaedia that are text analysed. The transcribed interviews have been analysed using a version of ideological analysis as it has been developed by the Gothenburg School. The views on the peer producing activities on the micro level has been analysed in a dialectical way but is also grounded in a specific field model.Six ideological formations are identified in the empirical material. On the micro level: the peripheral, bottom-up- and top-down-formation, on the macro level: the Californian alikeness ideology, communism of capital and capitalism of communism. Communism of capital has two sides to it: one stresses the synergies and the other the conflicts between the two phenomena. The formations on the macro level conform broadly to contemporary Marxist theory, but there are important differences as well. The study results in a hypothesis that the critical side of communism of capital and the peripheral and bottom-up-formation could help to further a more sustainable capitalism of communism, and counteract a deeper integration of the top-down-formation with Californian alikeness ideology. The latter is the main risk of capitalist co-optation of the peer production that is underway as the manifestly dominant formations on the macro level are Californian alikeness ideology and communism of capital.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Månsson, Maria. / *Mediatized tourism: the convergence of media and tourism performances.* Lund: Lund University, 2015. 192 s. ISBN 9789176233498, ISBN (elektronisk) 9789176233504.

Popular culture and tourism are intertwining. The use of film and literature amongst destination marketing organisations is a global trend, but how can we understand this phenomenon and all the processes involved? Up to now popular culture and tourism have been researched mainly from a single media perspective. However, it is difficult to separate the impact of one media product from that of another, and it is now time to highlight the processes of multimediality. Moreover, this far most of the research has focused on destination marketing issues and not on the tourists involved in these processes. Therefore, it is relevant to explore in which sense these intertwined media

products are part of tourists' activities as well as of their understandings of places.

The aim of this dissertation is to explore the different processes that emerge when tourism and popular cultural media products interweave, placing special emphasis on tourist performances and destinations. Roslyn Chapel, which is featured in The Da Vinci Code, and the hereto related tourism activities is the case studied in this dissertation. However, each of the papers included have a slightly different theoretical and methodological approach. The main theoretical concepts applied and discussed in the dissertation are mediatization, convergence and performance.

Fulltext>>

Noheden, Kristoffer. / *Haloed objects on mental parade: myth and magic in post-war surrealist cinema*. Stockholm: Stockholms universitet, 2015. 317 s. ISBN 9789176492147.

Following the end of World War II, the surrealist founder André Breton organized the exhibition Le Surréalisme en 1947. In conjunction with it, he announced a "change in direction" for surrealism, towards the search for a new myth, replete with magic. This dissertation examines post-war surrealist cinema in the light of these changing priorities. Earlier scholarship on surrealist cinema has predominantly focused on a few canonized films from the interwar period. Similarly, scholarship across the disciplines has tended to all but ignore surrealism's continued existence and development after 1939. This dissertation draws on recent tendencies in interdisciplinary surrealism scholarship, in order to expand the perspectives on both surrealist cinema and the wider meaning and implications of the movement's turn to myth and magic. It takes a broadly comparative, interdisciplinary, and intermedial approach, and situates surrealist cinema in the context of surrealist art, exhibitions, literature, and theoretical writings. The dissertation is organized into four case studies. The first two of these treat films from the immediate post-war era, and comprise the Danish artist Wilhelm Freddie's forays into filmmaking, and the French poet Benjamin Péret's contribution to the 1953 documentary film L'Invention du monde. The remaining two case studies cover films from the late 1960s and onwards, and treat the Argentinean-born director Nelly Kaplan's feature films, and the Czech artist and animator Jan Švankmajer's short and feature films.

No fulltext

Nylén, Daniel. / *Digital innovation and changing identities: investigating organizational implications of digitalization*. Umeå universitet, 2015. 97 s. ISBN 978-91-7601-278-9.

The emergence of digital technology represents a paradigmatic historical shift. As a process transforming sociotechnical structures, digitalization has had pervasive effects on organizing structures and business logics, as well as contemporary society as a whole. In recent years, these effects have been particularly salient in the content-based (e.g. music and imaging), and most recently the print-media (e.g. newspapers and magazines) industries. Facing dramatically declining sales of print media products, publishers have sought to leverage digital technology for innovation. However, the digital revenues still do not yet typically compensate for the decline in print media sales. This thesis explores the organizational implications of digitalization in the media domain. Scholars have increasingly stressed that digital technology has some distinct characteristics that have fundamental implications for innovation. This thesis examines aspects of these implications that have been far from fully explored, including the roles of digital technologies as enablers of process innovation (new methods, procedures or responsibilities), product innovation outcomes (which shift or expand an organization's domain) and associated changes in organizational cognition and identity. The thesis is based on four empirical investigations, reported in appended papers, of the evolution of digital platforms, the new content creation practices they enable, and how traditional print media firms have sought to innovate and reorient themselves in relation to these novel phenomena. The composite analysis illustrates how the distinct characteristics of digital technologies are complicit in transitions from stable to fragile product categories, highlights the need for a dynamic approach to identity orientation, and discusses and proposes key concerns in scholarly studies of digital innovation in organizations based on insights generated by the underlying studies.

Fulltext >>

Oja, Simon. / *Sverigedemokraternas budskap 2005-2010: en retorisk studie av ett annorlunda parti.* Örebro: Örebro university, 2015. 318 s. ISBN 978-91-7529-088-1.

This thesis originates from an interest in the relationship between rhetoric and democracy and how a society deals with controversial ideas. In Swedish politics, the Sweden Democrats is an exemplification of this. The aim of the dissertation is to, through a rhetorical perspective, illustrate, explain and discuss the perceived complexity of problems related to the Sweden Democrats on the basis of the following three questions: How are the Sweden Democrats viewed in public debate regarding publishing ads from the party? Which ideas are expressed in externally and internally addressed communication from the party? What communicative and argumentative strategies can be found in this communication?The foundation of the thesis is argumentation theory, epideictic

theory, visual rhetoric and humor theory. The overall methodological procedure is hermeneutic, applied through close reading of the material with a holistic approach. This is then applied by using the theoretical perspectives in analysis of debate, argumentation, and visual rhetoric.The results of the analysis shows that the publishers' positions regarding ad's change, but not their view of the party, which is perceived as changed in presentation but not in politics. The analysis of the Sweden Democrats communication does not give a conclusive answer. It shows that they are rather consistent in their topics, but adapt the presentation to the rhetorical situation. Reoccurring strategies are a consistent presentation of the main conflict in society as between Swedes and immigrants, conveying Muslims as a threat, and simple solutions to complex problems.Finally, this thesis discusses the categorization of the Sweden Democrats as a xenophobic nationalistic party and the potential for ideological criticism with rhetorical terminology and from a perspective inspired by Luthin's categories of demagoguery.

Fulltext >>

Picha Edwardsson, Malin. / Towards a sustainable media system: explorative studies of emerging media consumption trends and media processes for content production. Stockholm, 2015. 92 s., ISBN (elektronisk) 978-91-7595-491-2.

Understanding the process of transformational change currently taking place in the media industry is an urgent challenge for people working in the industry as well as for media consumers and other stakeholders. There is a great need to deepen our general knowledge when it comes to what the future media landscape will look like. Which of the major consumption trends that exist today will continue and possibly lead to disruptive change? Which of today's existing trends could give us a hint of tomorrow's media landscape? Furthermore, we need to explore the environmental impact of the future media landscape. What parameters are important when it comes to environmental aspects of media consumption, as well as in the production and distribution of media content? In relation to the global challenge of climate change/global warming, the author conclude that traditional media, public service media in particular, together with social media channels play an important role in the process of increasing knowledge and awareness among consumers, politicians and other stakeholders in society. However, in current media development, media companies are rapidly becoming more commercialized and more focused on entertainment instead of on producing serious journalism concerned with social, political and cultural matters.

Fulltext >>

Sartoretto, Paola . / *Voices from the margins: people, media, and the struggle for land in Brazil.* Karlstad: Karlstad University, 2015. 284 s., ISBN (elektronisk) 978-91-7063-650-9.

This study looks into communicative processes and media practices among members of a subaltern social movement. The aim is to gain an understanding of how these processes and practices contribute to symbolic cohesion in the movement, how they develop and are socialized into practices, and how these processes and practices help challenge hegemonic groups in society. These questions are explored through a qualitative study, based on fieldwork and interviews, of a subaltern social movement. The empirical object of the study is the Brazilian Landless Workers Movement (MST), which was founded in 1984 to promote agrarian reform and defend the rights of rural workers in Brazil. Departing from an understanding of communication as a process that structures practices (mediated and non-mediated), this study questions the media-centric understanding of communication, arguing that media practices are created through appropriation processes. The results show that communicative processes are crucial to reinforcing values and symbologies associated with the rural worker identity. There is also a high level of reflexivity about media practices and an understanding that they must serve the principles of the collective. As a consequence, the movement seeks to maintain control over media, routinely discussing and evaluating the adoption and use of media. The interviews show ambivalence towards the alleged dialogic and organisational potential of digital media and to the adaptability of these media to the MST's organisational processes. Through observation, it is possible to conclude that media have an instrumental function, as opposed to a structural function, in the processes of social transformation engendered by the MST.

[Fulltext >>](Fulltext)

Spak, Ulrik. / *Change detection of the unexpected: enhancing change detection of the unexpected in a complex and high risk context – guiding visual attention in a digital display environment*. Uppsala: Uppsala universitet, 2015. 124 s. ISBN 9789150624533.

The purpose of the thesis is to present a support concept for enhanced change detection in complex and high risk contexts. The design requirements are primarily provided by the field of command and control. The main mechanisms behind the problems of change detection are identified as the psychological phenomena of change blindness and inattentional blindness. A theoretical foundation is presented regarding these phenomena, complemented with a review concerning orientation and capture of visual attention. The solution space for enhanced change detection is explored and a gap in the literature is

identified; there is a need for a support concept which considers both blindness phenomena simultaneously. The thesis elaborates on a conceptual design; an adaptive attention aware system (A3S), based on cuing of visual attention. The results indicate that; (a) instructions can affect change detection performance, (b) the bottom-up flash cue enhance change detection independent of perceptual load, (c) the flash cue enhance change detection in both static and dynamic environments, and (d) the flash cue is beneficial for change detection even when its position is outside foveal vision in relation to the changed target object. Design propositions for an A3S are presented, derived from the results of the thesis.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Stenström, Kristina. / *Monsterkroppar: transformation, transmedialitet och makeoverkultur.* Stockholm: Stockholms universitet, 2015. 269 s., ISBN (elektronisk) 9789176492543.

The aim of the study is to examine monstrous corporality in popular culture both in relation to media texts and audience practices through analyzes of representation, consumption and performance. The study examines medial and corporeal transformation through: concrete bodily change (the monstrous body), shifts between media platforms (transmedia) as well as the transmission of affect between media material and viewer (embodied spectatorship). These dimensions are explored in four empirical chapters, through focus group interviews.
The results indicate that the theme of monstrous corporeal change in TB and TWD reflects corporeal change in late modernity in several ways. Both transformations are focused on 'before' and 'after' and change of the monstrous body is connected to particular traits or parts of the body, which are also prominent in makeover culture narratives, such as skin, teeth and weight (appetite).

Taken together, the zombie and vampire embody the pressures, risks and paradoxes connected to late modern makeover culture, and the mediated form they are presented through, tie them closer to those who engage in narratives about them.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Svensson, Göran. / *Att förstå mediekritik: begreppsliga, empiriska och teoretiska studier av svensk mediekritik 1998-2013* [Understanding media criticism: Conceptual, empirical and theoretical studies of media criticism in Sweden, 1998-2013]. Uppsala: Uppsala universitet, 2015. 326 s. ISBN 978-91-554-9127-7.

Media criticism is studied as a concept, as critical expression and as a force for social change. The concept of media criticism is developed in relation to different forms of critical practice, theory about criticism and critique and as a part of theories about media accountability. Media criticism as a force of social change is approached by exploring concepts for the analysis of social and cultural forms of media criticism.

The dissertation shows that media criticism should be given a more independent role in relation to the media accountability frame. Critical cultures and practices should be analysed in their relations to accountability cultures and practices. The concepts of institution, formative and formation were used for analysing the social and cultural forms of media criticism, where institutions are understood as the stable forms of media criticism, formatives as the changeable forms and formations as the combination of the two. Criticism and critical practice potentially have an important role to play for change in the media, journalism and society by addressing issues in an open and reflexive way. The approach to media criticism developed in the dissertation is termed critical institutionalism and aims to bridge the gap between critical social science, the sociology of critique and institutional analysis as applied in media studies.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Ågren, Ylva. / *Barns medierade värld: syskonsamspel, lek och konsumtion.* Stockholm: Stockholms universitet, 2015. 208 s., ISBN (elektronisk) 978-91-7649-105-8.

Denna avhandling undersöker hur syskon samspelar och skapar mening och social ordning inom ramen för olika mediepraktiker. Med hjälp av medieetnografiska metoder har 14 barn i åldrarna fyra till nio år (tio olika syskonkonstellationer) följts i hemmiljö under en halvårsperiod.

Avhandlingen synliggör hur medier utgör en stor och viktig del av barns vardagskultur. Medier är självklara referensramar och skapar gemensamma plattformar för barnens samtal och lekar. Syskonen använder medier och olika artefakter för att förhandla, utmana eller fördela positioner. Småsyskonen tar sig successivt in i de äldre syskonens medielandskap, medan de äldre ofta blir ledstjärnor eller ger sig själva tolkningsföreträde. Vidare visas hur kunskapsförmedling är ett väsentligt inslag mellan syskon. Utöver rent praktiska färdigheter i hur de tekniska apparaterna ska hanteras, förhandlas även smak, normer, värderingar och tillgång till symboliskt kapital. Spel, musik, TV, YouTube och medieartefakter används som resurser för självpresentation. Analyserna pekar på barnens aktörskap; barnen tolkar, omtolkar, utmanar och förhandlar innebörder och föreställningar om vad som är kultur för barn. Avhandlingen belyser även hur konsumtion intimt hänger samman med

mediepraktiker. Mobiler, spelkonsoler och medlemskap på virtuella spelsidor blir åtråvärda artefakter och statusmarkörer i barnens medievärldar.

[Fulltext >>](#)

Fil.Lic. dissertation

Indzic Dujso, Alexandra. / *Nationella minoriteter i historieundervisningen : bilder av romer i Utbildningsradions program under perioden 1975-2013* Umeå: Umeå universitet, 2015. 126 s., (Historiska medier; 11) ISBN 978-91-7601-296-3.

In 2000 when Sweden signed the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities the Roma minority became one of the acknowledged national minorities in the country. In that context, the Swedish school, with its founded as-signment of democracy, was given an important role.
The view of the Roma minority given in school books is often inadequate and simplified. The present study will therefore examine a different type of educational material used in schools and teaching, The Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company's programs of history and social studies regarding the Roma minority.
The results show a picture of Roma which, both in form and content, consists of some clearly demarcated discursive categories.
The changes in the view of Roma, given by the Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company, can mainly be explained by the change of the Swedish immigration and minority policy and, as a conse-quence of this, the change of the school˅s mission regarding knowledge communication of Sweden as a multicultural country.

[Fulltext>>](#)