

# Normativity Course

Postgraduate course, 6 university credits

*When: April 3-May 9, 2019. The course is clustered in 2- and 3-day gatherings, enabling PhD candidates who do not live in Linköping to join the course!*

*Where: At the Tema Department, Linköping University*

**What is normativity? How can we make sense of the relation between ethics and technology? How can norms and values be enacted in/by/through bodies and technological practices? What can it mean to examine embodied normativity and how may norms be transformed and acquire different meanings when becoming part of different practices or networks? What are the political and ethical implications of different stances on normativity? What are the possibilities and potential problems when engaging normatively with policy-work, based on one's research? These are some of the questions that this course addresses.**

This course gives an introduction to theories and approaches that are central for researching normativity from and within the humanities and social sciences, specifically when such research engages with science, medicine, and technology. Normativity is understood broadly as including norms, values, and ethical and/or political issues or dimensions where norms and values are expressed, enacted or argued for.

The course includes themes such as the co-emergence of normativity and technology; normativity's position in a western, colonial discourse; normativity and policy-work; embodied and enacted normativity in practices; scientific tools of normative vision; different ways to engage with normativity within and of research, and self-reflexivity on normativity in the course participant's own research. It includes perspectives and positions within anthropology, STS, feminist science studies, feminist phenomenology, philosophy of technology and medicine, climate policy research, and urban and energy planning, as some examples.

The course participants will be constantly challenged to discuss, critically examine, and compare various perspectives, approaches and concepts. They will read and discuss key texts and be familiarized with the criticism and debate surrounding core theoretical positions on how to engage with issues of normativity in research. They will be given ample opportunities for reflection and discussion of perspectives, theories and concepts in previous research on normativity, and relate this to their own research.

The course is designed to fit PhD students locally at Linköping University, nationally and internationally. It consists of three workshops (which a mix of lectures, panel and small group discussions), online interlocutor sessions with international guests, and 'regular' and 'response' seminars. These are clustered in 2- and 3-day gatherings.

*Course Coordinators:* Ericka Johnson and Kristin Zeiler. *Faculty:* Teachers from the Tema Department, LiU: Jonas Anshelm, Ericka Johnson, Edyta Just, Björn-Ola Linnér, Silje Lundgren, Darcy Parks, Madina Tlostanova, Else Vogel, Anette Wickström, Kristin Zeiler, Teun Zuiderent-Jerak. We also have the pleasure of listening to and engage with two guests who work with norm-critical design: Emma Börjesson and Anna Isaksson, Höskolan i Halmstad.

**Do you want to take part in this course?** Please email: [eva.danielsson@liu.se](mailto:eva.danielsson@liu.se) or [kristin.zeiler@liu.se](mailto:kristin.zeiler@liu.se) or [ericka.johnson@liu.se](mailto:ericka.johnson@liu.se)

*Most welcome!*