



## DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE, HISTORY OF IDEAS, AND RELIGION

### **RT2513 Unity or Diversity? Story, History and Ideology in Primitive Christianity, 7.5 credits**

Enhet eller mångfald? Berättelse, historia och ideologi i tidig kristendom, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion on 2018-12-12 and was last revised on 2019-04-23 to be valid from 2019-04-23, autumn semester of 2019.

*Field of education:* Arts 100%

*Department:* Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master of Theology (H2RTM)

*Main field of studies*

Religious Studies and Theology

*Specialization*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **Entry requirements**

Degree of Bachelor or completed courses of at least 180 credits at first cycle level, of which at least 90 credits with progression in a main field of study including a bachelor's thesis of at least 15 credits. Also qualified are applicants who have equivalent foreign education or that have equivalent prior knowledge according to earlier study regulation. Furthermore, a knowledge of languages equivalent to English A/English 5 as well as 15 credits of New Testament Greek is required.

#### **Learning outcomes**

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

*Knowledge and understanding*

- account for major positions on the dating of relevant New Testament texts with a special focus on the Acts of the Apostles and the historical value of such texts in current research,
- describe the texts' general narrative structure and theological content

*Competence and skills*

- translate central parts of the texts from the Greek language into English or Swedish and discuss philological and text-critical problems in the text
- interpret the contents of central parts from selected New Testament texts with scholarly methods

*Judgement and approach*

- critically assess ideological perspectives brought to expression in the texts studied in the course,
- discuss the significance of the Acts of the Apostles for relations between Judaism and Christianity in history and present times.

**Course content**

In the course, a selection of New Testament texts in the Nestle-Aland edition is studied in their original language together with one or more commentaries and/or monographs. The student delves into the texts as part of a narrative, as a historical source and as an expression of theological and ideological perspectives. Special emphasis is placed on the Acts of the Apostles as an expression of, and as a cause that contributed to, the separation between Judaism and Christianity as well as on the role played by the text for Jewish-Christian relations today.

**Form of teaching**

The course is taught through text seminars, to which the student is expected to contribute through prepared and active participation.

*Language of instruction:* English

The language of instruction is normally English, but if all students understand Swedish the teacher may use Swedish instead. Students' essays should normally be written in English, but if the teacher understands Swedish this language can be used instead.

**Assessment**

The course is assessed continuously through prepared and active participation in the seminars. All seminars are part of the assessment and thereby compulsory.

The student is required to retain a copy of home assignments until they are graded and returned. A student who submits a home assignment after the stipulated time has no right to have it assessed, but must submit it at the next reexamination or obtain a re-examination at another occasion.

For a student who has failed an examination, the possibility of a reexamination is given at no more than four occasions.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

**Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade Pass, active participation in all compulsory components of the course is required, as well as passed written assignments and oral presentations.

For the grade Pass with distinction, the student is required to have shown knowledge and skills in a particularly productive and critically reflecting way in accordance with the aims of course. The grade Pass cannot be changed to Failed on the student's request.

A student who has passed an examination may not participate in a re-examination for higher grades. The person concerned neither has the right to revoke a submitted examination to avoid grading.

The examiner has the possibility to request supplementary assignments for the grade Pass. The supplementary assignment should in such cases be communicated the student

in writing and be submitted within the time stipulated by the teacher.

For the final grade Pass with distinction, Pass with distinction is required on at least 50 % of the assessing components of the course.

### **Course evaluation**

Students who participate in or have completed a course are given the possibility to anonymously express their views on the course in course evaluations. Course evaluations can take place through oral and written evaluations that are both formative and summative.

The department is responsible for carrying out course evaluations systematically and regularly and for seeing to it that they are compiled in accordance with the regulations for course evaluations at the Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion.

The results evaluations and possible changes to the course shall be communicated to the students who participated in the evaluation and the students who are starting the course.

### **Additional information**

In addition to the stated intended learning outcomes, students in the course should, whenever relevant, be encouraged to make assessments with respect to gender equality and other aspects of equality, as well as sensitise and problematise ecologically, economically and socially sustainable development.