



DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE, HISTORY OF IDEAS, AND RELIGION

RT2314 Theology and the Reading of Western History, 7.5 credits

Teologin och läsningen av Västerlandets historia, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion on 2017-07-03 to be valid from 2017-07-03, autumn semester of 2018.

Field of education: Arts 100%

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

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a freestanding course at second cycle level.

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 some main field of study where it is included a bachelor's thesis of at least 15 credits. Qualified are also those that have equivalent foreign education or that have equivalent prior knowledge according to earlier study regulation. Furthermore, knowledge corresponding to English A/English 5 is required.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- account for events, individuals and ideas essential for the intersection between philosophy, ethics, politics and religious faith in western society

- analyse important arguments for different historical and contemporary positions in the fields of religion, ethics and politics, secularism and alternative political theologies

Competence and skills

- work constructively with theoretical concepts and traditions in this field
- express oneself orally and in writing in a stringent and linguistically correct way with regard to the themes and problems treated in the course

Judgement and approach

- show a nuanced understanding of the historical relationships between theology and philosophical, ethical and political questions, as well as their contemporary consequences

Course content

This course treats the relationship between Christian theology and the emerging modernity from historical, philosophical, social-scientific and theological perspectives. For example, the theological roots of secular and liberal society are explored as well as its criticism of religion, modern moral philosophy and its relationship to theological ethics, the relation between church and politics in the secular and postsecular society, as well as the conditions of theology in modernity. The course readings contain a rich theoretical framework and prepare in this way also for further research, as well as for participation in public debate with regard to these questions.

Form of teaching

The teaching is normally conducted in the form of lectures and/or seminars.

Language of instruction: English

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

Assessment

The course is normally assessed through participation in seminar discussion, as well as through individual written home assignments.

The student is required to retain a copy of home assignments until they are graded and returned. The one who submits a home assignment after the stipulated time has not the 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 examination, possibility for new test at no more than four occasions is given.

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

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student will normally be guaranteed at least three opportunities to take the examination (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).

To pass with distinction, it is required that the student in a particularly productive and critically reflective way has shown knowledge and skills in accordance with the aim of the 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 has not the right to revoke a submitted examination to avoid grading. The examiner has the possibility to request supplementary student work for the grade Pass. The supplementary assignment should in such cases be communicated to the student in writing and should be completed in the time period specified by the teacher.

Course evaluation

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 (www.lir.gu.se/om-oss/styrdokument).

The result and any changes to the course setup will be communicated to the students who carried out the evaluation and to the students who are to start the course.

Additional information

In addition to stated expected learning outcomes, the student in the course should, when relevant, be encouraged to make assessments with regard to gender equality and equality aspects, as well as to be attentive to ecologically economically and socially sustainable development.