



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

### **RT2522 Apocryphal Gospels, 7.5 credits**

Apokryfiska evangelier, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

---

#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion on 2022-06-15 to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester of 2023.

*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.

#### **Learning outcomes**

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

#### *Knowledge and understanding*

- specify the characteristics of apocryphal Gospels

- describe and exemplify different genres with the category apocryphal Gospels

#### *Competence and skills*

- analyze the contents, profile and compositional history of some more important apocryphal Gospels
- compare and analyze the relationship between the apocryphal and canonical Gospels respectively

#### *Judgement and approach*

- critically evaluate the historical and theological significance of apocryphal Gospels
- evaluate the significance of discoveries of apocryphal texts for modern Gospels research

### **Course content**

The course covers different types of apocryphal Gospels and introduce their contents. Historical-critical study of the texts is emphasized, as is the evaluation of their historical and theological significance. During the course, apocryphal Gospels are studied in translation. Special attention is given to the most well-known and debated among these texts, such as the Gospel of Thomas, the seemingly Judaism-oriented Gospels of the Ebionites, Nazoreans and Hebrews, and the so-called Infancy Gospels of James and Thomas. In addition to the primary texts, students familiarise themselves with the scholarly field and the academic discussion about these texts.

### **Form of teaching**

The course is taught through compulsory text seminars, to which the student is expected to contribute through prepared and active participation. The seminars are conducted on campus and online at certain definite times. The student is expected to be present physically or online on these occasions.

#### *Language of instruction:* English

The language of instruction is normally English, but if all students understand Swedish the teacher may use Swedish instead.

### **Assessment**

The course is assessed continuously through written assignments and 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 twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed.

### **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.

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.

### **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 of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and 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.