



DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE, HISTORY OF IDEAS, AND RELIGION

RT2524 God, Humanity, and Gender in the Hebrew Bible, 7.5 credits

Gud, människa och genus i den hebreiska Bibeln, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion on 2024-01-19 to be valid from 2024-09-02, autumn semester of 2024.

Field of education: Arts 100%

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

Position in the educational system

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 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. Applicants must prove knowledge of English: English 5/English A or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS. 15 HEC in biblical Hebrew is also required.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify different aspects of sex and gender in the Hebrew Bible

- describe linguistic characteristics in sections of the Hebrew Bible describing gods and people and discuss these characteristics in relation to sex and gender
- problematize norms, beliefs and power structures that are related to sex and gender in the Hebrew Bible

Competence and skills

- translate central text sections from biblical Hebrew to Swedish or English and identify linguistic problems in the texts
- account for the importance of central words and concepts in the text sections, and show familiarity with text critical work by using the text-critical apparatus in *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*
- discuss current text sections based on feminist exegesis, masculinity research and queer theory

Judgement and approach

- critically analyze descriptions of gods and people in the Hebrew Bible, from both historical-critical, feminist theological, masculinity research and queer theoretical perspectives
- evaluate the significance of sex and gender in Jewish and Christian interpretations of the roles and characters of gods and humans the Hebrew Bible.

Course content

The course involves a study of selected text from the Hebrew Bible, focusing on constructions of gender and attributes of gender to God and man. Using various biblical methods, feminist exegesis and theology, masculinity research, and queer theory, the student is provided tools for a critical approach to different Jewish and Christian interpretations of God and human, expressed in terms of sex and gender in the Hebrew Bible. In addition to reading texts in the original language of the Hebrew Bible, the study includes relevant extra-biblical texts as well as secondary literature in the form of monographs and comments.

Form of teaching

Teaching takes place through compulsory text seminars. The seminars take place on campus and online at certain specific times, students are expected to be present at campus or connected by internet at the time for the 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 assessed through participation in seminar discussion (compulsory), 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.

Student 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 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 in supplementary qualifications of examination for the grade Pass. The supplementary assignment should in such cases be

communicated the student in writing and be handed in within the teacher's stipulated time.

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.

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

The course cannot be included in the same degree as RT2512 Male and Female? Gender, God and Humanity in the Hebrew Bible.