



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

### **RT2713 Historical Methods in Religious Studies and Theology, 7.5 credits**

Historisk metod och analys inom religionsvetenskap och teologi, 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 2017-09-13 to be valid from 2017-09-13, 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 the second cycle level. The course is combined very well with a Master or master's thesis.

*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*

- identify and independently discuss methodological and theoretical problems that are relevant for religious studies and theology
- explain the social relevance of source-critically based religious studies and theological research
- independently describe the process to choose a method in order to answer a certain research question

*Competence and skills*

- read, understand and interpret historical sources that are of relevance for religious studies and theology

*Judgement and approach*

- evaluate an analysis of a historical source material to current research in religious studies and theology

**Course content**

The course treats historical method and analysis such as these are applied in religious studies and theology. In the course, the student meets different practical ways to work with historical source material and different theoretical tools to analyse this material. Likewise, the social and denominational relevance to study religious studies and theology is discussed on the basis of historical critical starting points. In the course, the student chooses, in addition to common components, between a religious-historical or church historical orientation.

**Form of teaching**

Teaching is conducted normally in the form of lectures and seminars.

*Language of instruction: English*

Language of instruction is normally English, but if all students understand Swedish can the teacher choose Swedish instead. The examinations are written normally in English, but if the teacher understands Swedish can Swedish be chosen instead.

**Assessment**

The course is assessed in the form of an active presence at seminars and an oral and written presentation of a chosen speciality. Absence from seminars is supplemented in accordance with teachers' instructions.

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). For the grade Pass, active attendance on the compulsory components as well as passed written assignments and oral presentations of the course is required. To pass with distinction, it is required that the written assignment has obtained the assessment Pass with distinction. For this assessment is required that the student in a particularly productive and critical reflecting 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 neither 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 made in of the teacher exposed time.

### **Course evaluation**

The department is responsible for that course evaluation is carried out systematically and regularly and is compiled in accordance with the regulations for course evaluation

at Department of literature, history of ideas and religion ([www.lir.gu.se/om-oss/styrdokument](http://www.lir.gu.se/om-oss/styrdokument)).

The results of the evaluation and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and new students who are starting the course.

**Additional information**

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