



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Cultural Sciences

1HI525 Kvinnor och makt under medeltiden, 10 högskolepoäng
Women and Power in the Middle Ages, 10 credits

Main field of study

History

Subject Group

History

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

GIN

Date of Ratification

Approved by Organisational Committee 2009-12-10

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2010

Prerequisites

, with the exception of Social Science A

Expected learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- present social- and religious conditions that enabled or prevented female exercise of power during the latter part of the Middle Ages
- present important characteristics of female upbringing and education during the latter part of the Middle Ages
- discuss female exercise of power during the latter part of the Middle Ages in a larger gender historical context.

Content

This course integrates perspectives taken from history, education and psychology in order to analyse prerequisites for the rise of female power in Europe in the late Middle Ages. A selection of powerful women, politically and religiously, are individually studied. In the course various factors of political, religious, judicial and educational nature are also discussed in relation to how these have promoted or prevented female exercise of power. In conclusion we ask the question of how conditions for female exercise of power have changed since the Middle Ages.

Type of Instruction

Teaching may be in the form of web based lectures and seminars. The seminars are conducted through discussions at a web forum.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

In order to pass the course, students need to meet the expected learning outcomes.

Examination and grading occur through written home assignments and/or written project work in accordance with teacher instructions. Active participation at web based seminar discussions is required in order to pass the course.

A resit is offered within six weeks (within the framework of regular terms) and the number of resits is limited to five (in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance 6 chap. 21§).

Course Evaluation

When the course has finished, an evaluation is compiled. The results are reported back to students and then archived according to the rules of the School.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Christine de Pizan (1999). *The Book of the City of Ladies*. Translated and with an introduction and notes by Rosalind Brown-Grant. London etc.: Penguin Books. 279 p. ISBN: 978-0-140-44689-0.

Piltz, Anders (1998 or later). *Medeltidens lärda värld*. 2nd ed. Skellefteå: Norma. 218 p.

Schuback, Karin (ed) (2005). *Birgitta: Feminist, politiker och helgon: En antologi från Birgittajubileumsåret 2003 vid Linköpings universitet*. Forums skriftserie 3, Linköping: Filosofiska fakulteten vid Linköpings universitet. Selection, approx. 50 pages.

Weir, Alison (2005 or later). *Queen Isabella: Treachery, Adultery, and Murder in Medieval England*. New York: Ballantine Books. 487 p.

A biography of Birgitta chosen through consultation with the course teacher, for instance by Emilia Fogelklou 1919 or later, Sven Stolpe 1985, Hans Furuhausen 1990 or later, Bridget Morris 1999 or Birger Bergh 2002, approx. 250 p.

Text compendium, approx. 100 pages.

Harrison, Dick (2003). *Europa i världen: Medeltiden*. Stockholm: Liber

Harrison, Dick (2002). *Sveriges historia: Medeltiden*. Stockholm: Liber.