



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

1KV204 Från vikingarna till krigarkungarna, Sveriges utveckling
från sent 700-tal till 1721, 7,5 högskolepoäng

From the Vikings to the warrior kings: the development of Sweden
from the late 700s to 1721, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

History
Religious Studies

Subject

Other Interdisciplinary Studies

Level

First cycle

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2024-12-17.

Revised 2026-03-02. The prerequisite requirement has been supplemented with subjects according to GY25.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

You also need:
English 6

Or:
English, level 2

Objectives

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

- in general terms account for the main features of Swedish history up to 1721,
- account for central historical developments, and take into consideration the role and changed status of religions,
- account for important minority peoples within the Swedish realm and their contributions to Swedish history up to 1721,
- exemplify and discuss similarities and differences between historical developments in Sweden to 1721 and the history of some other country or culture.

Content

This course introduces the main features of the political, economic, religious, and social developments in Sweden from the Viking era to the end of the Great Northern War (circa 1721). The concept of Swedish identity is problematized by discussing indigenous peoples, the importance of migration, and the position of Scania and Finland in the Swedish realm. A sub-theme of the course is religious change, from Old Norse religion and Saami traditions, to the establishment of the Catholic church in Sweden, to the Reformation, and finally a period of state-controlled Lutheran Orthodoxy. Changing relations between women and men are also examined. Throughout the course, comparisons and connections are made between Swedish history and countries and cultures the students are familiar with.

Type of Instruction

Instruction is delivered in the form of lectures and seminars.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E or F.

The course is examined through a written exam. The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail. Grade criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the student through a special document. The student is to be informed about the grade criteria for the course by the start of the course at the latest.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels. In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Lindström, T. et al., 2018. *A Concise History of Sweden from the Viking Age to the*

Present. Lund: Studentlitteratur, (232 p.) ISBN: 9789144104973

In addition, articles provided through the online learning platform, ca. 300 p.