



## Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences  
School of Cultural Sciences

1RK010 Mytologins värld. En religionshistorisk introduktion., 7,5  
högskolepoäng

World of Mythology. A religio-historical introduction., 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Religious Studies

### **Subject Group**

Religious Studies

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

GIN

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by the Board of the School of Cultural Sciences 2009-08-10

Revised 2010-10-07. English translation added.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2011

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements.

## Expected learning outcomes

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

- identify a myth and gather information about its historical and ritual context,
- analyze a myth based on a fundamental structuralistic and ideology-critical method,
- discuss mythology's relationship to historical development.

## Content

The course provides a resolute introduction to how analyses of myths are conducted within the humanities subject of history of religions. The course is organized around exercises in interpreting both ancient and modern myths. Examples of myths and mystical material are taken from different media (images, texts, films, music, animated series, etc.). Various theories for interpreting myths are taken up, however the main emphasis is placed on practicing identifying and historically contextualizing myths, analyzing them based on a structuralistic and ideology-critical method, as well as explaining them based on functionalistic and sociological theories.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is in the form of lectures, group work, "blended learning" and seminars. The teacher will determine which components of the course are mandatory. Written and/or oral assignments, as well as study visits, are a part of the course.

### Examination

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

Examination and grading is based on active participation, written assignments during the course and a final assignment. In order to pass the course students need to meet the expected learning outcomes.

### Course Evaluation

Teaching is continually evaluated throughout the semester. Course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course. The evaluation is compiled, reviewed with the students and archived according to departmental protocol.

### Required Reading and Additional Study Material

#### Mythology

Arvidsson, Stefan. 2007. *Draksjukan. Mytiska fantasier hos Tolkien, Wagner och de Vries*. Nordic Academic Press.

*Bibeln*. Se [\\_www.bibeln.se\\_](http://www.bibeln.se)

*Enuma elish. Det babylonska skapelseeposet*. 2005. Translated by Ola Wikander. Wahlström och Widstrand.

Homeros, *Illiaden*. 2000. Translated by Ingvar Björkeson. Natur och kultur.

*King Arthur*. 2004. Film by Antoine Fuqua.

*Troja*. 2004. Film by Wolfgang Petersen.

Wagner, Richard. Librettot (i.e., the text) to *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. Many German editions are available (for example with comments by Herbert Huber from 1988), but it is all right to use editions in other languages. The most recent translation to Swedish is by Sven Lenninger. Older Swedish translations may also be used.

Compendium with source material and articles