Linnæus University

Jnr: 2019/39-3.1.2.2

Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

1RK045 Fornnordisk folkkultur – folklore, artefakter och visuella lämningar, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Old Norse culture – Folklore, Artefacts and Visual Remains, 7.5 credits

Main field of study
Religious Studies

Subject Group
Religious Studies

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
G1N

Date of Ratification
Approved 2019-02-05
Revised 2019-09-30 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2020

Prerequisites
General entry requirements.

Objectives

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

- in general terms account for source material which can be used to study the culture of the late Iron Age, the Viking Age and the Middle Ages,
- apply basic source criticism relevant to this kind of material,
- exemplify some interpretations of Old Norse culture introduced with the help of artefacts, visual remains and similar material,
- in general terms account for source material from the Christian period used by historians to illustrate culture from the late Iron Age, the Viking Age and the Middle Ages,
- discuss and problematise the relation between elite culture and popular culture, using terms such as conversion, ideology and hegemony.

Content

In this course the students develop knowledge of the culture of the late Iron Age, the Viking Age and the Middle Ages. The source material relevant when investigating ordinary people's culture, mentality and world views cannot primarily be the elite's written culture, but must include objects, images and other non-written remains. Therefore, this course emphasises discussions of issues concerning source criticism and the value of different constructive approaches. The course also discusses the documentation from later Christian peasant culture often used by folklorists to illustrate pre-Christian culture retroactively.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures and seminars. When the course is offered as a distance course, seminars are replaced with group exercises on the online learning platform.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).
The course is examined through continuous assignments and a final presentation in the form of a take-home examination. In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified when the course starts. Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University.

If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

During the implementation of the course or in close conjunction with the course, a course evaluation is to be carried out. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are to be promptly presented as feedback to the students who have completed the course. Students who participate during the next course instance receive feedback at the start of the course. The course evaluation is to be carried out anonymously.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Articles, ca 800 p, available at the online learning platform.