



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

2RKÄ02 Religionsvetenskap III - inriktning mot arbete i
gymnasieskolan, 15 högskolepoäng

Study of Religions III - for Upper Secondary School Teachers, 15
credits

Main field of study

Religious Studies

Subject Group

Religious Studies

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2F

Date of Ratification

Approved 2011-12-15

Revised 2017-08-30 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2017

Prerequisites

Religion I – for upper secondary school teachers, 1–30 credits, and Religion II – for upper secondary school teachers, 31–60 credits, or the equivalent.

Objectives

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

- problematise teachers' work in relation to current research in the subject and its didactics,
- on the basis of current research assess subject-didactic approaches in relation to the areas covered by the programme,
- critically process, review, summarise and present literature on theories and methods in religious studies, and present clear arguments and participate actively in discussions of methods and theories in religious studies,
- specialise in an empirical area in religious studies, independently and on the basis of previous levels of progression, and demonstrate in-depth knowledge and an ability to reflect on issues within this area, in speech and writing.

Classical theories in religious studies, 7.5 credits

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

- identify and name historically influential people in religious studies within the humanities and social sciences, and account for their contributions to the development of the subject

- discuss the relation between theoretical development in religious studies, general societal changes and changes in the school subject religious studies,
- independently process and in speech and writing present theoretical literature in religious studies.

Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits

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

- formulate clear and relevant research questions in religious studies,
- review various methods in religious studies in relation to different research questions and forms of empirical material,
- suggest and apply methods for retrieving and processing material relevant to problem areas in religious studies.

Content

Classical theories in religious studies, 7.5 credits

The aim of this module is for the students to develop their previously acquired knowledge of theoretical traditions and critical approaches to material in religious studies. The module focuses on the students gaining insights into the historical development of the subject, as well as its historical and societal context, and how changes in the subject can be related to changes in the teaching of religious studies in school.

Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits

The aim of this module is for the students to develop their previously acquired knowledge of methodological considerations and methods for analysis. The module is based on methodological reasoning, which is also made concrete in practical exercises. The module focuses on the relevance of certain methods to issues related to subject didactics.

The module focuses on two research traditions. The humanitiestradiation focuses on historiography, textual analysis, image analysis, rhetoric and semiotics. The social sciencestradiation focuses on methods such as interviewing, surveys, statistics and participant observation.

Scientific approach and scientific progression

In relation to previous levels of progression, the students develop their knowledge of theoretical and methodological aspects of religious studies, with a clearer focus on the students' abilities in independent reflection and evaluation, as well as practical applications of both theories and methods.

Professional basis and professional progression

All modules are related to subject didactics, with a clearer focus on theories and methodology in educational sciences, in relation to previous levels of progression.

The teacher informs the students about compulsory parts of the teaching.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars and group exercises. Written and oral assignments occur.

Examination

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

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. In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction, the student must have received the grade of Pass with Distinction in both modules.

Classical theories in religious studies is examined through:

1.Active participation in seminars

2.Continuous written assignments on the course literature

Methodology in religious studies is examined through:

1.Active participation in seminars and laboratory sessions

2.Method exercises, individually and/or in groups, and documentation of these

For all modules, absence from seminars must be complemented in writing. For students who do not pass the first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course and the students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time. The evaluation is anonymous. The course evaluation is filed according to departmental regulations.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Classical theories in religious studies, 7.5 credits

Berger, Peter L. *The sacred canopy: elements of a sociological theory of religion*, Doubleday. The latest edition, 229 p.

Douglas, Mary. *Purity and danger*. Routledge. The latest edition, 180 p.

Eliade, Mircea. *Heligt och profant*. Daidalos. The latest edition. 170 p.

Lincoln, Bruce. *Holy Terrors: Thinking about Religion after September 11*, University of Chicago Press. The latest edition, 140 p.

Additional material and articles, 150 p.

Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits

Bergström, Göran & Boréus, Kristina (eds.) *Textens mening och makt: Metodbok i samhällsvetenskaplig text- och diskursanalys*. Studentlitteratur, the latest edition. Selection, ca 300 p.

Culler, Jonathan. *Litteraturteori: en mycket kort introduktion*. Studentlitteratur. The latest edition. 166 p.

Ginzburg, Carlo. *Osten och maskarna: En 1500-talsmjölnares tankar om skapelsen*, Ordfront. The latest edition or the latest English edition. 242 p.

Kajser, Lars & Öhlander, Magnus (eds.) *Etnologiskt fältarbete*, Studentlitteratur. The latest edition (in selection, ca 250 p)

Lantz, Björn. *Den statistiska undersökningen*, Studentlitteratur. The latest edition, 194 p.

Repstad, Pål. *Närhet och distans: kvalitativa metoder i samhällsvetenskap*, Studentlitteratur. The latest edition, 191 p.

Tosh, John. *Historisk teori och metod*, Studentlitteratur. The latest edition, 228 p.

Additional material and articles, 200 p.

General subject-didactic literature

Articles from the following online journals (available through the university library) are used in all modules:

British journal of religious education

International journal of education and religion

Religious education

Teaching theology and religion

Articles are provided by the teacher, or chosen by the student in consultation with the teacher.