



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 2018-06-07 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2018

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.

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, and relate the content of this literature to the teaching of religion.

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 and religion didactics.

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.

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 discusses methods and methodological considerations in two research traditions. The discussion of the humanities tradition focuses on historiography, textual analysis and image analysis. The discussion of the social sciences tradition focuses on interviews, 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

Both 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 compulsory seminars.
2. Written assignments.

Methodology in religious studies is examined through:

1. Active participation in compulsory seminars/workshops.
2. Written assignments.

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 200 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.

Kajiser, 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.

Rennstam, Jens & Wästerfors, David. *Från stoff till studie : om analysarbete i kvalitativ forskning*. Studentlitteratur. The latest edition, 197 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 specified by the teacher, or chosen by the student in consultation with the teacher.