



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

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

2RKÄ02 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 2022-06-17 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2022

Prerequisites

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

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to

- evaluate subject-didactic approaches relative to the areas covered by the course
- critically process, evaluate, summarise, and present literature on theory and method in religious studies, and participate actively in discussions on method and theory in religious studies, using clear arguments
- problematise the teacher's duties and responsibilities relative to the subject's didactics and to current research in the field.

Module: *Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits*

After completing the module, the student should be able to

- formulate relevant research problems in the field of religious studies, in a clear

way

- assess different methods used in religious studies in relation to different research problems and different kinds of empirical material
- suggest and use methods for collecting and processing data of relevance for different problem areas in the fields of religious studies and religion didactics.

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 in the humanities and social sciences, and describe their contributions to the development of the subject
- discuss the relationship between theoretical development of the field of religious studies, general societal changes, and changes in the school subject of religion
- independently process and present theoretical literature in religious studies, in speech and in writing, and link the content of this literature to the teaching of religion.

Content

Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits

The aim of this module is for the student to develop and deepen their knowledge of methodological considerations and analytical methods. The module is based on methodological ways of reasoning, but it also includes hands-on, practical exercises. Special focus lies on the relevance of different methods for the didactics of the subject.

The module discusses methods and methodological considerations within two different research traditions: the humanities and the social sciences. In the former case, focus lies on historiography and text and image analysis, whereas in the latter case, it lies on interviews, questionnaires, statistics, and participant observation.

Module: Classical theories in religious studies, 7.5 credits

The aim of this module is for the student to develop and deepen their knowledge of theoretical traditions and critical approaches to material used in religious studies. A very important aspect of this is to provide insights into the historical development of the subject and its position in society and in the history of ideas.

Scientific approach and scientific progression

Relative to previous levels of progression, the modules in this course deepens the discussion of theoretical and methodological aspects of religious studies, with an increased focus on students' independent ability to reflect and make assessments as well as on their practical use of theories and methods.

Professional basis and professional progression

Compared to previous levels of progression, both modules relate to subject didactics with an increased focus on theoretical and methodological aspects of the educational sciences.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars and group exercises. There are also written and oral assignments.

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 communicated in writing when the course starts. In order to receive the grade of Pass with Distinction for the entire course, the student must have received this grade for both modules.

Methodology in religious studies is examined through

1. seminar assignments
2. written hand-in assignments.

Classical theories in religious studies is examined through

1. seminar assignments
2. written hand-in assignments.

Resit 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 adapt the exam or to let the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation should be conducted. The result and analysis of the course evaluation should be promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time should be informed of the result at the course introduction. The course evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module: Methodology in religious studies, 7.5 credits

Alvehus, Johan. *Problemformulering*, Studentlitteratur, Lund, the latest edition, 102 pages.

Asprem, Egil & Sundqvist, Olof (eds.). *Religionshistoria: en introduktion till teori och metod*, Studentlitteratur, Lund, the latest edition, in selection, ca 200 pages).

Gustavsson, Martin & Svanström, Yvonne (eds.), *Metod: guide för historiska studier*, Studentlitteratur, Lund, the latest edition. 150 pages.

Kajser, Lars & Öhlander, Magnus (eds.). *Etnologiskt fältarbete*, Studentlitteratur, the latest edition, in selection ca 150 pages.

Lantz, Björn. *Den statistiska undersökningen*, Studentlitteratur, the latest edition. 194 pages.

Rennstam, Jens & Wästerfors, David. *Från stoff till studie : om analysarbete i kvalitativ forskning*, Studentlitteratur, the latest edition. 197 pages.

Module: Classical theories in religious studies, 7.5 credits

Asprem, Egil & Sundqvist, Olof (eds.). *Religionshistoria: en introduktion till teori och*

metod, Studentlitteratur, Lund, the latest edition, in selection, ca 100 pages).

Boyer, Pascal. *Religion explained: the human instincts that fashion gods, spirits and ancestors*, Vintage, London, the latest edition, in selection, 250 pages.

Douglas, Mary. *Purity and danger*, Routledge, the latest edition, 180 pages.

Eliade, Mircea. *Heligt och profant*, Daidalos, the latest edition, 170 pages.

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

Additional working material and articles of 150 pages. Provided on the course learning platform.

General subject-didactic reading

In both modules, articles from the following online journals will be used (available via the University Library):

British journal of religious education

International journal of education and religion

Religious education

Teaching theology and religion

Which articles to read will be specified by the teacher, or, alternatively, determined by the student in consultation with the teacher.