



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

JUDD28, Jewish Studies: Jewish Mysticism, 7.5 credits

Judaistik: Judisk mystik, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the pro-dean for first-cycle studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2014-12-18 and was valid from 2015-01-19, spring semester 2015.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

It can be selected as a specialisation course in the Bachelor's programme in Religious Studies and Theology.

It can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Main field of studies

Religious Studies and Theology: History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- with a certain degree of independence provide a structured summary and description of the historical development, central ideas and key figures of Jewish mysticism
- discern and provide examples of the relationship between different religious statements and their historical, social and religious context

Competence and skills

- individually and in groups interpret translated key texts of Jewish mysticism with regard to genre, structure, contents and central ideas
- present and with a certain degree of independence reflect on research problems associated with the study of Jewish texts and their interpretative traditions
- provide creative feedback on the ideas of others
- orally present a set theme in the form of a short lecture

Judgement and approach

- take a critical position on the contents of Jewish mystical texts from the perspectives of power, gender and ethnicity
- critically assess modern phenomena on the boundary between traditional Judaism and New Age

Course content

The course provides students with an introduction to Jewish mysticism, its historical development and main ideas as a specialisation in Jewish thought.

It starts with a thorough chronological overview of the different manifestations of Jewish mysticism, exemplified through relevant extracts from Jewish mystical texts. This is followed by studies of selected thematic issues, such as view of God, view of man, eschatology and the relationship between good and evil. Finally, the students are to execute a minor analysis of the contents of a web page linked to Jewish mysticism, aiming to highlight the diversity of Jewish thought and the specific traits of Jewish mysticism.

Course design

The course is mainly a distance learning course supported by a web-based learning management system and digital tools. Students are required to participate on these conditions and to have access to a computer with internet connection, a headset (microphone and ear phones) and preferably a camera. Information regarding technical requirements is available from the department

The teaching consists of online lectures, six compulsory online text seminars and a final all-day seminar in Lund. The online seminars and the final all-day seminar require compulsory and prepared participation. Any absences must be compensated for in accordance with instructions from the lecturer.

Assessment

The assessment is continuous and based on written discussions of different review questions linked to the eight components of the course, on active participation in the online text discussions and on an oral presentation in the form of a short lecture.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must meet the general entry requirements and have passed 15 credits in Jewish Studies.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
2. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
3. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.