



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

RHIB73, History of Religions: Occultism, Magic and Secret Societies, 7.5 credits

*Religionshistoria: Ockultism, magi och hemliga sällskap, 7,5
högskolepoäng*
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2018-02-27 to be valid from 2018-06-04, spring semester 2018.

General Information

Subject: History of Religions

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It may be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

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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

- account for the development of occultism from the mid-nineteenth century to the present
- discuss how occultism has interacted with and affected society
- account for the most important occult organisations, their leading ideas and practices

Competence and skills

- compare and analyse present-day and historical occult material from the perspective of religious studies issues and theoretical approaches

Judgement and approach

- interrogate various historical narratives and concept definitions of religious studies
- discuss and assess the historical development of occultism in relation to class and gender

Course content

The course deals with occultism, an umbrella term for esoterically influenced movements in modern times. It presents the development of occultism from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Moreover, it accounts for influential occult organisations, including their leading ideas and practices. Among the topics analysed are the relation of occultism to modern society, art and popular culture, politics and gender, and its use of history and relationship to science.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Assessment

The assessment is based on a take-home exam.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have 30 credits of academic 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 application information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in RHIB73, History of Religions: Occultism, Magic and Secret Societies

Applies from V18

1801 History of Religions: Occultism, Magic and Secret Societies, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction