



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **SASH84, Paganism Revived - The New Religions of Today, 7.5 credits**

*Paganism Revived - The New Religions of Today, 7,5  
högskolepoäng  
First Cycle / Grundnivå*

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2017-02-14 to be valid from 2017-02-14, spring semester 2017.

### **General Information**

Subject: Religious Studies and Theology

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

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

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

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*Depth of study relative to the degree  
requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary  
level entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

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

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- provide a general account of the common features of world view and practice of a selection new religious movements as well as of the differences between them
- provide a general account of the emergence of new religious movements in the the West since the mid-1800s, focusing on the religions covered by the course

### **Competence and skills**

- discuss, in writing, how the religious groups included in the course relate to modernity
- critically analyse and discuss different examples of the use of history of new religious movements, and the mechanisms for identity creation expressed through them

### **Judgement and approach**

- perceive, compare and take a position on religious and scholarly terminology
- critically and reflectively assess different theories of how new religious movements relate to wider society and to political and cultural currents

### **Course content**

The course is an introduction to present-day new religious movements, focusing on movements that refer to Antiquity. Major emphasis will be placed on movements in Sweden.

The course provides a broad overview of new pagan and occult movements in the West since the mid-1800s. It covers their emergence and historical development as well as their relation to wider society today.

The course deals with the use of history and constructions of traditions, and the students will practise observing how creativity can be balanced against claims of traditionalism in the staging of religious practices which have been retrieved from historically and culturally remote societies. Focus is placed on the empirical material, and study visits and guest lectures from practitioners may be included on the course.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

## **Assessment**

The assessment is based on a final written take-home exam.

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

## **Grades**

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

## **Entry requirements**

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

## **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. For further details see the current application information and other relevant documentation.
3. International exchange students are generally exempted from the requirement of proficiency in Swedish.

## Subcourses in SASH84, Paganism Revived - The New Religions of Today

Applies from V17

1701 Paganism Revived - The New Religions of Today, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A