



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ARKN13, Archaeology, Text and Interpretation, 15 credits

Arkeologi, text och tolkning, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2014-12-15 to be valid from 2014-12-15, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

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

Language of instruction: English

The course is normally taught in English. It can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached by both the lecturer and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of studies

Archaeology and Ancient History

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Historical Archaeology

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Archaeology

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Historical Osteology

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- provide a specialised account of the contents of the early texts studied
- in speech and writing reflect on and account for the social function of the text and the dynamics between text and speech and different text types in pre-modern society
- understand, explain and account for problems of interpretation in the intersection between object and text

Competence and skills

- in speech and writing comment on and explain early sources, for example literary texts, epic texts and different types of inscription
- judge texts with regard to their creation and contents but also to their importance and use in early periods
- understand and account for problems associated with early editions of early texts when it comes to translation, modernisation of language and interpretations
- interpret and take a deliberate position on the complexity of texts as sources of the past

Judgement and approach

- highly independently analyse how the presence of texts affects the interpretation of archaeological material
- critically discuss theoretical perspectives on the use of texts in early societies
- critically discuss the history of text criticism and the associated interpretative methodology.

Course content

The general theme of the course is the value of early texts as sources. We address the social function of texts, the dynamics between text and speech, text types, practical approaches to the physical text, the methodology of close reading, the creation of texts, the keeping and preservation of texts, texts on objects and in space. Furthermore, the course highlights problems and challenges associated with translations and editions of texts. The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The aim of the lectures is to provide students with specialised methodological and theoretical perspectives and the aim of the seminars to subject a series of key texts to close reading and interpretation. The objective is to provide students with tools to become familiar with, interpret and take a position on the complexity of our sources to the past.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises and seminars. The seminars (8 to 10) are compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment is normally based on individual written assignments and oral presentations in groups. Subject to a special agreement between the lecturers and students, other forms of assessment may be included.

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.

Students are awarded one of the grades Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have passed: ARKK04 Archaeology Level 3 ARKH04 Historical Archaeology Level 3 AKSA04 Classical Archaeology and Ancient History Level 3, or HOSA04 Historical Osteology Level 3, and English B or the equivalent.

Further information

1. 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 registration information and other relevant documentation.
2. Students on the Master's programme in Archaeology and Ancient History, HAAAH, are prioritised for admission to the course. The students are expected to have good written and oral proficiency in English.
3. The course is offered at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University

Subcourses in ARKN13, Archaeology, Text and Interpretation

Applies from H14

1401 Archaeology, Text and Interpretation, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction