



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

BIVR12, Biblical Studies: Second Cycle Course I, 15 credits

Bibelvetenskap: Avancerad kurs I, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2014-06-23 and was last revised on 2016-04-27 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-08-29, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It is included in the Master of Arts (120 credits) programme in Religious Studies and Theology specialising in Biblical Studies. It can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies

Theology

Religious Studies and Theology with specialization in Biblical Studies

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, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- identify advanced morphological and syntactical patterns in one of the biblical languages
- explain the meaning of a large number of words in one of the biblical languages
- account for complex relationships between content, history and theology in the Old or New Testament
- summarise and explain social and theological contexts during the different periods of the history of the Bible

- account for and discuss advanced inquiries in current research in Old or New Testament Studies
- account for and contextualise selected non-biblical texts of relevance to the interpretation of the Bible

Competence and skills

- use dictionaries and grammars to read and understand advanced biblical texts in their original language and translate them into good, idiomatic Swedish
- in the context of the analysis and translation of biblical texts, integrate and use an increased vocabulary of the original language
- use current research to independently perform a linguistically and historically well informed interpretation of biblical texts
- independently apply relevant theories of interpretation and textual methods in writing
- communicate independently executed analyses to different target groups

Judgement and approach

- critically review and assess historical and ethical aspects of theological research and development
- assess the role of the exegete in society and academia, and judge the responsibility of the interpreter for how texts and interpretations are used

Course content

The course starts with a joint module on methods, whereupon the students specialise in either Old or New Testament Studies.

For students specialising in Old Testament Studies:

The first module enables the students to obtain specialised knowledge and skills in interpreting texts using a scholarly method. Both old and new methods are addressed through exercises in practical exegesis, which are reviewed and discussed with regard to methodological precision.

The second module focuses on a special theme within Old Testament Studies research. The module includes advanced literature about the Historical Books, the Psalms and Wisdom Books or the Prophets. Through analysis and translation of about 15 pages of Old Testament text in Hebrew, students acquire specialised knowledge of the morphology, syntax and vocabulary of Old Testament Hebrew. The assignments in practical exegesis enable students to acquire specialised knowledge and understanding of the history of ancient Israel, and Old Testament theology and anthropology. These subjects are placed in a broader exegetical context in which familiarity with relevant Near East traditions and the history of exegesis is important. The module includes an individual assignment linked to these subjects.

For students specialising in New Testament Studies:

The first module enables the students to obtain specialised knowledge and skills in interpreting texts using a scholarly method. Both old and new methods are addressed through exercises in practical exegesis, which are reviewed and discussed with regard to methodological precision.

The second module enables the students to develop knowledge of the morphology, syntax and central vocabulary of New Testament Greek through translation and exegesis of approximately 15 pages of important New Testament and selected non-biblical texts in Greek. Furthermore, important historical and theological subjects in the New Testament, above all in Pauline research, are presented and interrogated. These subjects are placed in a broader exegetical context in which familiarity with non-biblical Greek texts is important. The module includes a written assignment in which the student is to deal with a subject based on a list of advanced literature on one of the Pauline letters.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Method, 3 credits.
2. Textual Study, History and Theology, 12 credits.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and approximately 6 compulsory seminars. In connection with the seminars, the student is expected to carry out independent written and oral assignments.

Assessment

The assessment of module 1 is based on written memoranda.

The assessment of module 2 is based on written exegetical assignments, a written review and oral and written popular science presentations.

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.

To be awarded a grade Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded at least the grade of Pass on both modules. To be awarded a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on both modules.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have a Bachelor's degree and passed the following course in Biblical Studies: The Old Testament in Hebrew, 30 credits (BIVC01) or Biblical Studies: The New Testament in Greek, 30 credits (BIVC02) or the equivalent.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
2. Module titles in Swedish: 1. Metod. 2. Textstudier, historia och teologi.
3. This course replaces BIV R11.
4. 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.
5. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in BIVR12, Biblical Studies: Second Cycle Course I

Applies from H14

- 1401 Method, 3,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 1402 Textual Studies, History and Theology, 12,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction