



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **CTRB41, Christianity and Popular Culture, 7.5 credits**

*Christianity and Popular Culture, 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 2021-12-18 to be valid from 2021-12-18, spring semester 2022.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can 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*

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**

- provide a general account of how Christianity is perceived and used in popular culture (1980-2022)
- provide a basic account of Christian language, figures and narratives influence popular culture products and the reverse, how popular culture products influence Christian figures, language and narratives

#### **Competence and skills**

- identify similarities and differences in Christian figures, narratives and concepts represented in different popular culture products

- critically analyse, identify, understand, discuss and reflect on Christian symbols, statements, figures and dogmas in contemporary popular culture products (films, songs, art etc.).

### **Judgement and approach**

- discuss and problematise the interaction of popular culture with Christianity as a historical, ideological and media process
- discuss and problematise the role of Christianity in popular culture
- problematise both historical and contemporary popular culture perspectives on Christianity
- in a basic way, relate to popular culture from a Christian perspective and to Christianity from a popular culture perspective

### **Course content**

The course examines Christianity's forms, figures, thought patterns and narratives in a range of contemporary popular culture products. These products range from films and streaming series to music, music videos and pop art products e.g. images and memes that are shared, liked and used on social media (Instagram and Youtube). The main content and focus of the course is the interaction between Christianity and popular culture.

The course covers methodological and theoretical texts about what popular culture is, how popular culture can be studied and how religion and Christianity in popular culture can be studied. This comprises the basis for seminars on different popular culture products and their representation of Christianity, e.g. in James Bond films, South Park, the series Lucifer, Beyonce's music and social media etc.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The student is to give an oral presentation on their final assignment at a seminar. The oral presentation is compulsory. Absence from the seminar and activities may be compensated for in the form of a minor essay.

### **Assessment**

The assessment of the course is based on a final written assignment.

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 successfully completed 30 credits in religious studies, humanities or social sciences.

## **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.

## Subcourses in CTRB41, Christianity and Popular Culture

Applies from V22

2201 Christianity and Popular Culture, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction