

CTRB57, Antisemitism, Islamophobia and Constructing the Enemy, 7.5 credits

Antisemitism, Islamophobia and Constructing the Enemy, 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 2023-06-14 (U 2023/516) and was last revised on 2024-10-11 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2024/688). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2024-10-11 and is valid from the spring semester 2025.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a general qualification for both first and second-cycle studies.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

- G2F, First cycle, has at least 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

- give a structured account of the complexity in, and the discussions of, the concepts anti-semitism and islamophobia,
- compare and contrast the concepts of anti-semitism and islamophobia,
- give an account of the historical and ideological roots of the anti-semitism and islamophobia,
- give an account of how the concepts of anti-semitism and islamophobia have been used in the past and in the present day,

Competence and skills

- critically discuss how the concepts of anti-semitism and islamophobia are used in studies of religion,
- critically discuss how anti-semitism and islamophobia are used in processes of religious, cultural and political "alienation",
- discuss how anti-semitic and islamophobic ideas come to expression in different conspiracy theories,
- analyse and discuss anti-semitic and islamophobic language and actions in the past and in the present day,

Judgement and approach

- reflect on the complexity in the scientific study of the concepts anti-semitism and islamophobia, using a critical and research-based approach,
- critically evaluate accusations about anti-semitism or islamophobia directed towards individuals, states and departments considering the history and geopolitical circumstances in which accusations of these concepts are expressed,
- evaluate the use of and disputes around the concepts anti-semitism and islamophobia in broader debates and how social enemies are designed and minorities are alienated.

Course content

The course is based on a religious studies perspective to discuss the concepts anti-semitism and islamophobia - that is concepts that refer to fears and prejudices vis-à-vis Jews, Judaism, Muslims and Islam. By focusing on the historical, theological/ideological, political and cultural aspects of anti-semitism and islamophobia, the historical roots and the contemporary forms of these fears and prejudices are explored. The course starts by problematising the concepts anti-semitism and islamophobia and continues by analysing how these concepts have been used in order to designate "the enemy" and used in processes of religious, cultural and political "alienation". Thereafter, the historical roots and ideological contexts in which anti-semitism and the islamophobia arise and develop are studied. The course concludes by focusing on modern and contemporary manifestations of anti-semitism and islamophobia, such as, for example, how conspiracy theories are used in order to heighten hostility towards Jews and Muslims today.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and 3-5 compulsory seminars. Students can make up for missed seminars through written assignments in accordance with the teacher's instructions.

Assessment

The course is examined through a written assignment at the end of the course.

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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

The grades awarded for the seminars are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass on the whole course, a Pass grade on all seminars and the grade Pass on the written examination is required. To pass the course with distinction, a Pass grade on all seminars and the grade Pass with distinction on the written examination is required.

Entry requirements

Entry to the course requires that the applicant have at least 60 credits or equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
- Swedish title: Antisemitism, islamofobi och konsten att konstruera fienden.
- 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 current registration and information materials.