

HISA35, History: Level 2, 30 credits

Historia: Fortsättningskurs, 30 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 2017-01-09 and was last revised on 2025-03-13 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/140). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-09-01 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course is included in the Bachelor's programme in History. The course may be included in a general qualification in the first or second cycle.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study *Specialisation*

History 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 specialised account of cultural, political, economic or social states and changes in a selected problem area or in a field of historical research,
- account for and discuss current historical research in a selected field,
- account for the basics of academic writing, such as formal aspects, genres, structure and academic integrity,
- account for and discuss some relevant concepts and methods of historical research,

Competence and skills

- write accessible and clarifying texts for different target groups in which requirements for good language usage and meticulousness are met,
- reference, cite and summarise the content of source material and research texts,
- independently search literature and source material in databases and library systems, and use digital resources,
- pose historically relevant questions and assess different source materials based on these,
- search, process and critically assess historical source materials and relevant research literature when writing a short scholarly paper,

Judgement and approach

- make ethical deliberations in connection with historical studies and presentations,
- critically review, assess and discuss scholarly texts in the context of academic paper seminars.

Course content

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Academic Writing, 7.5 credits
2. Thematic Specialisation, 7.5 credits
3. Research Methods, 7.5 credits
4. Paper, 7.5 credits

The course begins with the module Academic Writing, which deals with the basics of academic writing such as literature searches, problem formulation, the structure of texts, formal aspects, language style, genres, adaptation to the receiver, academic integrity and research ethics. The module covers the different text types used by historians, such as research articles, theses and popular science presentations, as well as communication with wider society through e.g. popularisation, textbooks or exhibition texts.

The second module, Thematic Specialisation, is linked to research carried out at the department. Module 2 provides students with specialised subject knowledge and understanding of current research and research discussions in the area of the specialisation. The Thematic Specialisation module includes elements of research-based learning, in which knowledge and skills are acquired through analysis of source material or minor literature-based reviews.

Module 3 addresses key methods and their fields of use in historical research. The Research Methods module consists of practical work on sources of different kinds. Among the topics addressed are source criticism, view of history and manuscript reading. The students work on qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, hermeneutic methodology, discourse analysis and analysis of uses of history. The module includes a visit to archives and searches in library databases.

Informed by the modules Academic Writing and Research Methods, students conclude the course by writing a short scholarly paper. The paper is written individually and the topic is chosen in consultation with the lecturer. The paper is discussed at a seminar.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and group exercises.

Module 1 includes 8-10 compulsory seminars, with compulsory group exercises that require preparation and active participation.

Module 2 includes 8-10 compulsory seminars, with compulsory group exercises that require preparation and active participation.

Module 3 includes 8-10 compulsory seminars, with compulsory group exercises that require preparation and active participation, as well as one compulsory study visit to archives and one visit to a research library.

In module 4, the student is to write an individual paper under supervision. The students are to present their papers, critically review the papers of other students and participate in the seminar discussion at the final compulsory paper presentation seminars.

If a student is absent from a compulsory teaching session for a valid reason, a supplementary assignment according to the instructions of the teaching practitioner is required.

Assessment

Module 1 Academic Writing is assessed through 3-4 written assignments.

Module 2 Thematic Specialisation is assessed through a take-home exam.

Module 3 Research Methods is assessed through take-home exams.

Module 4 Paper is assessed in part based on the writing and discussion of an individual paper, and in part on the student's critical review of the papers of fellow students.

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

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded at least the grade of Pass on all modules. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade for at least 22.5 of the credits of the course and the grade of Pass for the remaining credits.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed at least 15 credits in History: Level 1 HISA34, or equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of History, Lund University.

- The course has overlapping content with HISA27.
- 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.
- The module titles in Swedish:
 1. Akademiskt skrivande
 2. Tematisk fördjupningskurs
 3. Metodkurs
 4. Uppsats