

HISS01, Historical Studies: Introductory Course, 7.5 credits

Historiska studier: Introduktionskurs, 7,5 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 2011-06-20 and was last revised on 2025-02-20 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/119). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

General information

The course is a compulsory component of the Master's Programme in History. The course can also be offered as a freestanding course. The course may be included in a general qualification in the first or second cycle.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of study

History of Ideas and Sciences

History

Specialisation

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

- relate to and problematise different directions in current historical research and research in the history of ideas and place them historiographically,
- describe the theoretical and practical conditions under which historical research and research in the history of ideas are created and the role of historians in society,

Competence and skills

- discuss the question of why one becomes an historian and historian of ideas, and how historians and historians of ideas select their subject areas and theoretical starting points,
- discuss problems in historical studies from an historiographic perspective,
- demonstrate proficiency in information retrieval, reference management and source criticism,

Judgement and approach

- discuss and problematise questions relating to the social significance of historical studies and the responsibility of historians,
- comprehensively evaluate ethical issues in historical research, including the use of AI.

Course content

The course examines the community of historians from a contemporary and historiographic perspective, based on concepts such as professionalisation and "fields of history". The conditions under which historians work are discussed, as is the question of what guides a historian's/historian of ideas' choice of subject, theories and methods. The course also provides an in-depth overview of current research, and addresses issues related to the use of historical research in society and the ethical responsibilities of historians.

Course design

The teaching consists of 8-10 sessions, generally seminars, as well as lectures and group exercises. All teaching sessions are compulsory and require both preparation and active participation in accordance with the instructions of the teaching practitioner.

If a student is absent from a compulsory teaching session for a valid reason, a written supplementary assignment according to the instructions of the teaching practitioner is required. A supplementary assignment is allowed as an exception; if a student misses more than three teaching sessions, these sessions can be repeated the next time the course is offered.

Assessment

Assessment of the course is based on a written assignment that is publicly discussed at a seminar.

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

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have 90 credits in history, history of ideas or another subject with an historical focus, or equivalent knowledge

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of History, Lund University.
- 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 application information and other relevant documentation.