

HISS35, Historical Studies: Thesis Preparation Course 1 - The State of the Art, 7.5 credits

Historiska studier: Uppsatsförberedande kurs 1 - Forskningsläget, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2025-05-26 (U 2025/402). The syllabus comes into effect 2025-05-26 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

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 is offered as a freestanding course and can be included in a first or second-cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish

<i>Main field of study</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>
History of Ideas and Sciences	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
History	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe what constitutes a defined and relevant research situation
- explain the importance of different types of literature in the construction of a research situation and in the dynamics of research debates.

Competence and skills

- discuss different problem formulations in relation to a research situation
- critically and systematically synthesise knowledge from the humanities and social sciences from an international perspective
- demonstrate advanced skills in information search and source criticism
- apply AI as a tool in the research process

Judgement and approach

- evaluate and problematise different approaches in relevant research areas
- identify need for additional knowledge
- make ethical judgements, including in relation to AI tools

Course content

The course focuses on how research modes are identified, developed and used. During the course, students work on systematically summarising an international state of knowledge for a chosen theme and try out different ways of presenting their research review. In addition, the course deals with the importance of the state of research for the problem formulation of a study. The course also addresses the possible use of AI tools in the research process and emphasises ethical aspects of research work. The course is organised in close cooperation with the HT libraries.

Course design

The teaching of the course is based on 2-4 lecturer-led seminars, which are interspersed with self-study and group discussions without lecturer participation. Students are expected to actively participate in group discussions. The lecturer-led teaching sessions are compulsory and require both preparation and active participation in accordance with the instructions of the course lecturer.

If a student is absent from a teaching session for a valid reason, a written supplementary assignment is required according to the instructions of the course lecturer. Supplementation 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

The course is assessed by two written assignments: a research review and a process-orientated text reflecting on the development of the research review.

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

Admission to the course requires a bachelor's degree in history or the history of ideas and science, or another subject with a historical focus.

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 registration and information material.