

ILHS32, History of Ideas: Emotions in Historical Research, 7.5 credits

Idé- och lärdoms historia: Känslor i historisk forskning, 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 2025-12-10 (U 2025/957). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-01-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

General information

The course is part of the Master's Programme in History and is an elective course within the programme's History of Ideas specialisation. The course can also be 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

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- provide an account of how emotions have been theorized within Western thought and how ideas about emotions have been related to perceptions of body and mind, communication and society
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of central issues within the field of emotional history research

Competence and skills

- be able to critically reason about questions of the history of emotions based on a historical and cultural context
- independently search for and critically evaluate different types of source material and literature within the field of research in the history of emotions

Judgement and approach

- critically reflect on historical and contemporary perceptions of emotions and their relationship to views of human beings in history and the present
- reflect on how ideas about emotions have interacted with social, political and cultural processes throughout history.

Course content

The course provides an overview of important theories of emotions in Western philosophy, rhetoric, medicine and psychology from antiquity to the 21st century. The theories are related to their respective historical, political and media historical contexts. Special emphasis is placed on the historiographical discussion of emotions as a historical research object. The course also provides in-depth insights into current theories and methods within research on the history of emotions.

Course design

The teaching consists of 3-5 lectures and 3-5 mandatory seminars. In addition, students will continuously work on an independently chosen task. All 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 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 is based on a written assignment and an oral 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.

Grades

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

For the grade Pass, a pass is required on both the written and oral assignments. For the grade Pass with Distinction, a pass with distinction is required on the written assignment and at least a pass on the oral assignment.

Entry requirements

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

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, 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 materia