

ISLA20, Islamology: Muhammad, The Quran and the Formative History, 7.5 credits

Islamologi: Muhammad, Koranen och den tidiga historien, 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 2018-03-13 and was last revised on 2025-03-14 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2025/232). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-03-14 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

General information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of study

Religious Studies and Theology with specialization in History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Studies

Religious Studies and Theology

Specialisation

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in 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

- account for the life of Muhammad and his religious and political role
- account for the contents and compilation of the Quran
- provide a general account of Muslim historiography from approximately 500 to 750 CE

Competence and skills

- relate Muslim historiography to different types of sources
- distinguish between historical facts and ideological interpretation

Judgement and approach

- critically assess the symbolic importance of events and personalities in Muslim historiography.

Course content

The course deals with the life of Muhammad and the period after Muhammad, the four first caliphs and the Umayyad Caliphate. It highlights the religious, social, political, economic and cultural conditions between the years 500 and 750 CE, and highlights different types of sources of knowledge about the period. The course also addresses the history and contents of the Quran.

Course design

Teaching is in the form of lectures and 3-4 compulsory seminars. As part of the seminars, a mandatory oral presentation is included. Students can make up for missed seminars through written assignments in accordance with the lecturer's instructions.

Assessment

Assessment is based on 1 written take-home exam.

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 course, the student must have been awarded this grade on the take-home examination. To be awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction, students must also have been awarded the grade of Pass with Distinction on at least three of the five course modules.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed Islamology: Present-Day Islamic Discussions (ISLA21) or 30 credits in another subject.

Further information

- The course is given at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies at Lund University.
- The course is identical to module 2 in Islamology: Level 1 (ISLA11).
- The credits allocated for course content that is shared in whole or in part with another course can only be credited once for a degree.