



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

JUDD35, Jewish Studies: Classic Rabbinic texts, 7.5 credits

Judaistik: Klassiska rabbiniska texter, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2018-09-20 and was valid from 2018-09-20, spring semester 2019.

General Information

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

Some recorded lectures and written introductions in English may be included.

Main field of studies

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

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- provide a brief account of the most important Rabbinic texts, their composition and cultural context
- describe the most important distinguishing features of the Rabbinic texts and provide examples of different genres included in them
- provide an independent account of the importance of Rabbinic literature for the Jewish tradition and the ways in which it has influenced Jewish culture

Competence and skills

- read and analyse a selection of Rabbinic texts in translation
- relate the development of Rabbinic Judaism to the emergence of Christianity
- critically discuss what can be established about Jewish culture, values and theology in the period 70-600 on the basis of Rabbinic literature

Judgement and approach

- critically discuss Rabbinic texts as a historical source and the possibility of using them to reconstruct Jewish life in Israel and Babylonia in the period 70-600
- discuss the significance of Rabbinic texts for the development and present-day shape of Judaism

Course content

The course provides an overview of the development of Judaism after year 70 (including the Jesus-oriented Judaism recorded in the New Testament) and the emergence of Rabbinic Judaism in relation to Christianity. Focus is placed on Rabbinic Judaism and literature, and the course provides an overview of the most important Rabbinic texts, their composition, contents, distinguishing features and historical context. Special attention is paid to Rabbinic literature as a source of knowledge of Jewish culture and Jewish circumstances in Antiquity and to its importance for later Jewish tradition. In addition to secondary literature, students will read a selection of Rabbinic texts in translation.

Course design

The teaching consists of online lectures and webinars as well as a two-day seminar on campus in Lund. This seminar in Lund is a very important component of the course. Funds for travel to participate in the seminar in Lund are available for application from CTR.

The course is mainly a distance learning course supported by a learning management system and digital tools. Students are required to participate under these conditions, and to have access to a computer with an Internet connection including a headset (microphone and headphones) and preferably a webcam. The department will provide information about the technical requirements.

Assessment

The assessment is based on a final 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.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have 30 credits in theology/religious studies, humanities, social sciences or law.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
2. The course is module 1 in Jewish Studies: Level 2 (JUDB13).
3. The course has partly overlapping content with TRVN13, so the two courses may not be included in the same degree. Unlike TRVN13, the present course does not include Hebrew in the admission requirements and the Rabbinic texts are only read in translation. On the other hand, a slightly larger selection of texts is studied. There is considerable overlap with regard to the secondary literature, but the texts directly linked to Hebrew are in the present course replaced by a greater number of primary texts in translation.
4. 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 information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in JUDD35, Jewish Studies: Classic Rabbinic texts

Applies from V19

1901 Jewish Studies: Classic Rabbinic Texts, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction