

JUDD36, Jewish Studies: Judaism and Gender, 7.5 credits

Judaistik: Manlig och kvinnlig judendom, 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 2015-12-01 and was last revised on 2026-06-05 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2026/351). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-09-01 and is valid from the spring semester 2027.

General information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish

Instruction is primarily in Swedish, but teaching in other Scandinavian languages and English may occur.

Main field of study *Specialisation*

History of Religions 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 an account of the formulation of male and female gender roles within Judaism in different historical, ritualistic and religious contexts,
- provide an account of how different Jewish interpretations influence views on men and women in both everyday and ritual contexts,
- explain what an academic approach to Judaism and Jewish traditions entails,

Competence and skills

- write an academic text discussing the construction of female and male gender roles,

Judgement and approach

- based on issues of power, sex and ethnicity, take a position on how the view of masculinity and femininity has affected Jewish tradition and culture.

Course content

The course examines how gender roles for women and men have been constructed within Judaism during different historical periods and in various ritual and religious contexts, as well as the extent to which religious ideas and myths influence Jewish understandings of femininity and masculinity. The course also addresses how different Jewish traditions and interpretations have shaped views of gender, identity, and religious practice in both everyday and ritual contexts.

The course begins with an introductory module that reviews and contextualizes several central perspectives within Jewish Studies. Among other things, it highlights questions concerning how we can understand what Judaism is, what it means to regard Judaism as an interpretive religion, and which perspectives and methods characterize the academic study of Jewish Studies. Students are trained to critically reflect on how knowledge about Judaism is shaped, interpreted, and studied within academic contexts.

Course design

The teaching consists of online lectures and webinars.

The course is offered entirely as a distance learning course and makes use of an online learning platform and/or 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 of the course is based on five written assignments of 2-3 pages each.

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

To receive the grade Pass for the course, a grade of Pass is required on all submitted assignments. To receive the grade Pass with distinction for the course, a grade of Pass with distinction is additionally required on at least three submitted assignments.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and successful completion of at least 15 credits within Religious Studies: Level 1 (REVA10/ÄRED11), of which at least 5 credits must consist of Module 4. Alternatively, general eligibility and successful completion of at least 15 credits within Jewish Studies: Level 1 (JUDA12/JUDA13), or the equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
- The course is also included as module 1 in JUDB17, Jewish Studies: Level 2 B.
- 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.