



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **LIVR37, Literature-Culture-Media: Russian Modernism 1890-1928 - from the Silver Age to the Avantgarde, 15 credits**

*Litteratur-kultur-medier: Den ryska modernismen 1890-1928 - från Silveråldern till avantgardet, 15 högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

---

### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2010-03-01 to be valid from 2010-03-01, autumn semester 2010.

### **General Information**

The course is included as an elective course in the Master of Arts programme in Literature – Culture – Media. It is also offered as a free-standing course.

*Language of instruction:* English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached between the teacher and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course the student shall

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- be able to demonstrate both general and thorough knowledge about the scope of Russian modernism with specific reference to literature
- be able to describe the specific character of Russian modernism in relation to the mutual significance of literature and the other arts and to the rebirth of Russian religious philosophy and other relevant currents of ideas
- be able to describe the differences and similarities between Russian modernism and contemporary European modernism
- be able to give an in-depth account of the state and development of Russian culture at the time of the Russian revolution.

### Competence and skills

- be able to describe how Russian pre-revolutionary modernism was assimilated as well as rejected during the first decade of the Soviet state
- be able to describe the renewed significance of Russian modernism for Russian cultural identity after the fall of the Soviet Union.

### Judgement and approach

- be able to identify and critically assess the artistic, religious, moral, cultural, political and gender-related approaches that are expressed in Russian modernism
- be able to take a stand on individual issues with regard to Russian and European modernism.

### Course content

The course is focused on a number of central literary works of Russian modernism. The literary works are studied with regard to the context of a culture coloured by religious, philosophical and, gradually, political aspects, and with regard to the relationship between literature and the other arts. Russian modernism has two principal currents – Symbolism and Futurism – and their respective long-term contributions to Russian culture are studied.

Module 1: Russian Symbolism (1892-1910), 7.5 credits:

The module provides a general history of the movement and individual works by, among others, F. Sologub, A. Blok, A. Belyj and Z. Gippius are analysed against the background of, for example

- V. Solov'ev and other important figures for the religious rebirth
- Russian art
- the Symbolist orientation towards music and the Gesamtkunstwerk
- the influence of Nietzsche in Russia

Module 2: Russian Futurism (1910-1928), 7.5 credits:

The module provides a general history of the movement and individual works by, among others, V. Majakovskij and V. Chlebnikob are analysed and discussed. Examples of Russian film of the 1920s and Russian Constructivism are studied.

### Course design

Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars, image and film screenings and individual supervision. All skills-oriented stages and some of the seminars are compulsory.

### Assessment

Examination takes the form of a written test and home assignments. Continuous assessment of active attendance at compulsory seminars is also included.

*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 eligible for the course the student must have 90 higher education credits in Russian and/or Comparative Literature (i.e. 90 credits in a combination of these subjects) or the equivalent.

## Further information

1. The points 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.
2. The sub-course names in Swedish:
  1. Rysk Symbolism (1892-1910),
  2. Rysk Futurism (1910-1928).

Subcourses in LIVR37, Literature-Culture-Media: Russian Modernism 1890-1928 - from the Silver Age to the Avantgarde

Applies from H09

- 1001 Russian Symbolism, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 1002 Russian Futurism, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction