Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology

RETA32, Rhetoric: Level 2, 30 credits

Retorik: Fortsättningskurs, 30 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 2016-12-21 and was last revised on 2026-09-10 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2026/502). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-09-13 and is valid from the spring semester 2027.

General information

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

Language of instruction: Swedish
Components in other Scandinavian languages and English may be included.

Main field of study	*Specialisation*
Rhetoric	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

- account for and interrogate the main features of the history of rhetoric and some key classical texts
- account for the fundamental features of rhetorical didactics and the stages in the development of rhetorical teaching

- account for and apply different perspectives of rhetorical theory

Competence and skills

- compare different conceptions of rhetoric in different periods and contexts
- convert knowledge about rhetoric into planning of teaching and advice
- provide a specialised account of different methods of rhetorical analysis, and apply them in different communication forms
- execute a simple research study in rhetoric and present the findings in a minor scholarly paper
- carry out a critical review of the paper of a fellow student

Judgement and approach

- critically discuss and assess the importance of different rhetorical perspectives
- discuss how rhetorical perspectives can contribute constructively to both general societal issues and more personal positions

Course content

The course provides students with a specialisation in the theory and history of rhetoric, studying important theories in their historical context. It also contains a specialisation in applicable analytical methods. Furthermore, rhetoric is addressed as a subject of teaching and didactic field.

The course consists of four modules:

1. The History of Rhetoric, 7.5 credits,
2. Rhetoric and Learning, 7.5 credits,
3. Rhetorical Theory and Method, 7.5 credits,
4. Essay, 7.5 credits.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises, supervision and seminars. The first three modules include 9–12 compulsory components each. Module four includes 6–9 compulsory components.

An alternative form or date for compulsory components is offered to students who are not able to complete a compulsory component owing to circumstances beyond their control, e.g. accident, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

The assessment of module 2 is based on a presentation (oral, with a written summary), a written assignment based on a review compendium, and a final oral exam.

The assessment of module 2 is based on 2 oral and 2 written assignments.

The assessment of module 3 is based on 3 oral and 3 written assignments.

The assessment of module 4 is based on the defence and review of a paper and the critical review of a fellow student's paper.

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
For a grade of Pass on the course, the student must have passed all modules.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements and RETA30 Rhetoric: Level 1 or the equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course replaces RETA31.
- 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 application information and other relevant documentation.
- The module titles in Swedish:

1. Retorikens historia
2. Retorik och lärande
3. Retorisk teori och metod
4. Essay