



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

**RHBB04, History of Religions and Religious Behavioural  
Science: Level 2, 15 credits**  
*Religionshistoria och religionsbeteendevetenskap: Fortsättningskurs,  
15 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2021-05-21 and was last revised on 2022-09-25. The revised syllabus applies from 2022-09-25, spring semester 2023.

### General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can be selected as a specialisation course in the Bachelor's programme in Religious Studies and Theology. It can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* Swedish and English

*Main field of studies*

History of Religions

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

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### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to

#### Knowledge and understanding

- account for the role and function of religion in present-day society, using theories of modernity, post-modernity, secularisation, globalisation, migration and post-colonialism
- account for and compare a selection of past and present religio-political

This is a translation of the course  
syllabus approved in Swedish

expressions

- summarise and explain some models for understanding religio-political expressions from religious studies, political science and sociology

### **Competence and skills**

- explain, analyse and interpret the situation and function of religion in present-day society, using theories of modernity, post-modernity, secularisation, globalisation, migration and post-colonialism
- describe, analyse and interpret how religious texts and historical processes are used to sanction political and/or ideological positions and to legitimatise what is a correct life style
- critically assimilate research about religion and politics in Swedish and English

### **Judgement and approach**

- take a critical position on theories of modernity, post-modernity, secularisation, globalisation, migration and post-colonialism
- distinguish, compare and take a position on religious and scientific terminology
- critically assess the contents of religio-political statements

### **Course content**

The first part of the course introduces the students to theories that explain present-day society and their ability to explain the place and function of religion in present-day society. The students are introduced to theories of modernity, post-modernity, secularisation, globalisation, migration and post-colonialism and practise discussing the relevance of these theories to the study of religion. The later stage of the course explores the close relation between religion and politics throughout history and in several cultural contexts. Furthermore, it deals with modern religious uses of history and political/ideological interpretations of religious texts from a historical perspective.

The course consists of the following modules:

1. Religion and Society Today, 7.5 credits
2. Religion and Politics in History, 7.5 credits

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

### **Assessment**

The assessment of module 1 is based on a take-home exam.

The assessment of module 2 is based on a 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.

For a grade Pass on the whole course, students must have been awarded this grade on both modules.

For a grade Pass with Distinction on the whole course, students must have been awarded this grade on both modules.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have passed Religious Studies and Theology: Level 1 (CTRA12/CTRD12/CTRA11/CTRD01) or History of Religions: Level 1 (RHIA12/RHIA11) or Islamic Studies: Level 1 (ISLA11) or Jewish Studies: Level 1 (JUDA11) or History: Level 1 (HISA24) or the equivalent.

## Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
2. Module titles in Swedish: 1. Religion och samhälle i nutid. 2. Religion och politik i historien.
3. Module 1 can also be taken as a freestanding course (RHBB33). Module 2 can also be taken as a freestanding course (RHBB34).
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 RHBB04, History of Religions and Religious Behavioural  
Science: Level 2

Applies from V23

- 2301 Religion and Society Today, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2302 Religion and Politics in History, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction