



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

**RHBR12, History of Religions and Religious Behavioural
Science: Second Cycle Course I, 15 credits**
*Religionshistoria och religionsbeteendevetenskap: Avancerad kurs I,
15 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2014-06-23 and was last revised on 2023-03-15 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-03-15, autumn semester 2023.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. The course is a component of the Master of Arts programme in Religious Studies and Theology with a specialisation in History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science. It can be included in a first or second-cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

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*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle
course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- by means of advanced empirical knowledge in central research fields in History of Religions, Jewish Studies, Islamology or Religious Behavioural Science, summarise, explain and critically discuss current research and central theories in the area
- illustrate some of the methodological and theoretical fields of the specialisation

Competence and skills

- independently analyse, review and critically interpret research literature with regard to empiricism, method and theory
- process a large amount of information and present this in a structured way
- independently provide arguments for their own conclusions, orally and in writing
- formulate a structured oral or written popular-science presentation

Judgement and approach

- identify their own need of additional knowledge and based on this take responsibility for their own development of knowledge
- assess what responsible action is in complex situations in which knowledge, faith and values are set in opposition,
- relate in a reflective way to the knowledge acquired and the application of knowledge.

Course content

The course is linked to current research in History of Religions, Islamology, Jewish Studies and Religious Behavioural Science in which students deepen and broaden their previously acquired empirical and methodological knowledge, acquaint themselves with the current research situation in the chosen subject and practice reviewing and analysing the theories and methods on which current research literature is based.

For students with a specialisation in History of Religions, Islamology or Jewish Studies:

In the course, the focus is on four research fields: historiography, ritual research, text and communication of tradition, and the role of religion in society.

For students with a specialisation in Religious Behavioural Science:

The course starts with the study of quantitative and qualitative methods as well as the application fields of the different methods in Religious Behavioural Science. Major emphasis is placed on the differences between various methods as regards the significance of the problem for collection of data and analysis, and presentation of results. Thereafter, the student focuses on one or more of the current research domains.

Course design

The teaching consists mainly of independent literature studies and individual supervision, which may be supplemented by seminars and lectures. The oral presentations of current literature are compulsory.

Absence may be compensated for with a written assignment in accordance with the lecturer's instructions. If a series of lectures is given that is common to the History of Religion subjects, the student is expected to follow this.

Assessment

The course is examined continuously during the course through the student's oral presentations and discussions about the current literature and submission of four written assignments, one per thematic specialisation in the course (ritual, history,

present day and text), that present and reflect on the theory, method and empiricism of the literature.

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 the grade of Pass, the student must have been awarded the grade of Pass on all four written assignments. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, three of the four written assignments must have been awarded the grade Pass with Distinction.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires **either** a Bachelor's degree as well as History of Religions: Advanced course, 30 credits (RHIB21) or Islamology: Advanced course, 30 credits (ISLB20) or Jewish Studies: Advanced course, 30 credits (JUDB20) or Religious Behavioral Science: Advanced course, 30 credits (RBVB02) **or** a degree in secondary education with a specialisation in teaching Religious Studies **or** equivalent knowledge.

Further information

- The course is given at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies at Lund University.
- This course replaces RHBR11.
- The number of credits allocated for course content that is shared in whole or in part with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see current registration and information materials.

Subcourses in RHBR12, History of Religions and Religious Behavioural
Science: Second Cycle Course I

Applies from H23

2301 Second Cycle Course 1, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Applies from H14

1401 Second Cycle Course 1, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction