

RYSM02, Russian Modernism 1890-1928 - from the Silver Age to the Avantgarde, 15 credits

*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 of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2025-05-26 (U 2025/358). The syllabus comes into effect 2025-05-26 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course and can be included in a second cycle degree.

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.

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe the different art expressions of Russian modernism with a special focus on literature
- describe the specific character of Russian modernism and relate it to Russian religious philosophy and other relevant currents of ideas

- describe the differences and similarities between Russian modernism and contemporary European modernism in a general way
- give an in-depth account of the state and development of Russian culture at the time of the Russian revolution

Competence and skills

- explain how Russian pre-revolutionary modernism was assimilated as well as rejected during the first decade of the Soviet state
- describe the renewed significance of Russian modernism for Russian cultural identity after the fall of the Soviet Union
- analyse and interpret Russian modernist film, fiction and poetry with regard to modernism as an epoch and contemporary currents of ideas

Judgement and approach

- identify and critically assess the artistic, religious, moral, cultural, political and gender-related approaches that are expressed in Russian 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

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

Course design

Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars, image and film screenings and individual supervision. The course includes 8-10 mandatory seminars and 2-4 mandatory assignments. Completion of missed mandatory components can be done through oral or written assessment in consultation with the lecturer.

Assessment

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

The assessment of module 2 is based on a written 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

For a grade of Pass on the entire course, the student must have been awarded at least this grade on both home exams and the assessed components have been completed in an approved manner.

For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the entire course, the student must have been awarded this grade on both home exams and the assessed components have been completed in an approved manner.

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) and English 6.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- The course overlaps with LIVR37
- 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.
- The sub-course names in Swedish:
 1. Rysk Symbolism (1892-1910),
 2. Rysk Futurism (1910-1928).