

TLVB34, Studies in Faith and World Views: Level 2, 15 credits

Tros- och livsåskådningsvetenskap: Fortsättningskurs, 15 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 2022-03-23 and was last revised on 2026-03-02 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2026/115). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-03-02 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

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

Elements in other Scandinavian languages and English may occur.

Main field of study

Religious Studies and Theology with specialization in Studies in Faiths and World Views

Specialisation

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- account for the most important currents, questions and thinkers in the history of ideas of studies in faith and world views
- account for key themes of Christian theology in the past and present
- account for key problems and concepts of the philosophy of religion
- account for key ethical theories from history of ideas and contemporary perspectives

Competence and skills

- interpret and provide reasons for their interpretation of key texts of the history of ideas from different eras
- describe and discuss main problems in systematic theology with a certain degree of independence
- apply different perspectives in the discussion of problems of the philosophy of religion with a certain degree of independence
- describe and discuss the situation of humanity based on ethical theories with a certain degree of independence

Judgement and approach

- judge and assess contemporary issues in the specialisations of studies in faith and world views
- critically assess different theories and interpretations in systematic theology, philosophy of religion and ethics in current debates, especially with regard to gender, power and ethnicity

Course content

The course starts with an overview of the manifestations of ethics, philosophy of religion and theology in the history of ideas, and study of representative texts from different periods: Antiquity and the early church, the Middle Ages, the reformation and the modern era. This is followed by an in-depth study of the different subdisciplines of studies in faith and world views. Systematic theology looks at how main themes in Christian theology have been interpreted in both the past and present. Philosophy of religion addresses key areas of contention in philosophy of religion. Adopting different perspectives, including feminist perspectives, the course covers issues relating to the existence of God, different conceptions of knowledge and reality and the relationship between truth and meaning. The ethics component provides an introduction to leading ethical theories, from the perspectives of both the history of ideas and the present, whereupon the theories are applied in a discussion of current ethical issues.

The course consists of four modules:

1. History of Ideas, 6 credits
2. Systematic Theology, 3 credits
3. Philosophy of Religion, 3 credits
4. Ethics, 3 credits

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and 14-16 seminars. All seminars are compulsory. Absence from the seminars is to be compensated for with a written assignment in accordance with the lecturer's instructions. Students who are absent from more than 50 % of the seminars must retake the course.

Assessment

The assessment of Module 1 is based on a written take-home examination.

The assessment of Module 2 is based on a written take-home examination.

The assessment of Module 3 is based on a written take-home examination.

The assessment of Module 4 is based on an on-campus written examination

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 the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade for all modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on at least 9 course credits and the grade of Pass on the remaining credits.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have successfully completed 15 credits, of which 5 credits must be from Module 6, of Religious Studies: Level 1 (REVA10/ÄRED11), or the equivalent.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University.
- The course replaces TLVB33.
- 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.
- Module titles in Swedish:

1. Idéhistorisk översikt
2. Systematisk teologi
3. Religionsfilosofi
4. Etik