



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **YIDB20, Jewish World Literature in the 20th Century, 15 credits**

*Judisk världslitteratur på 1900-talet, 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 2017-12-14 to be valid from 2017-12-14, spring semester 2018.

### **General Information**

Subject: Yiddish

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

*Language of instruction:* Swedish and English

The course is normally taught in English, but can also be taught in Swedish, provided there is a special agreement between the lecturer/s and the students. Such an agreement requires that all lecturers and all students are proficient in Swedish. Non-compulsory material in Yiddish may be included.

*Main field of studies*

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*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

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

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- account for the key role of Jewish world literature for the creation of a modern Jewish culture
- account for some key themes and narrative devices in Jewish world literature
- account for some key methodological perspectives that are used in research on world literature, translation studies and modern Jewish literature

### **Competence and skills**

- discuss and orally present different critical perspectives on Jewish world literature
- discuss in speech and writing some key theoretical and methodological issues addressed in the research areas of world literature, translation studies and Jewish literature

### **Judgement and approach**

- critically assess the key works of the required reading in relation to both definitions of Jewish world literature in particular and world literature in general
- critically assess the literary, existential, moral, ideological, religious, commercial and scholarly aspects illustrated by the key works of the required reading

### **Course content**

The course presents some key theories used in the research areas of world literature and translation studies. The theories will be applied to a selection literary works written by Jewish authors in the 20th century. The works that will be studied are novels, short stories, prose poems and autobiographical texts originally written in Yiddish, Hebrew, English, German or Russian. All literary texts will be studied in English. The general aim of the course is, first, to highlight the main themes, styles, narrative devices and cultural aspects (Jewish identity, secularisation, nihilism, migration, revolution, Modernism, humour and satire, psychoanalysis and the Holocaust) marking Jewish twentieth-century literature originating in Central and Eastern Europe, the USA, and the Soviet Union and Russia (prior to 1917). A second aim is to use current theoretical perspectives of translation studies to describe the primary challenges of translating Jewish literature into English.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

## Assessment

The assessment is based on 2-3 written assignments and 10-11 seminars.

The examiner may deviate from the regular form of assessment if it cannot be implemented during a re-examination, and if it complies with the learning outcomes of the course.

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 of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on all assessed components. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must have been awarded this grade on all assessed components.

## Entry requirements

General and English 6

## Further information

1. The course is offered at the the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
2. 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.

## Subcourses in YIDB20, Jewish World Literature in the 20th Century

Applies from V18

1701 Jewish World Literature in the 20th Century, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction