



LUND UNIVERSITY
Humanities and Theology

Programme syllabus for the Master's programme in Religious Studies and Theology

1. Programme details

Title of the programme	<i>Master's programme in Religious Studies and Theology</i>
Title of the programme in Swedish	<i>Masterprogram i religionsvetenskap och teologi</i>
Main field	<i>Religion Studies and Theology</i>
Specialisations	<i>1. History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science specialising in</i> <i>a. Islamic Studies</i> <i>b. Jewish Studies</i> <i>c. History of Religions</i> <i>d. Religious Behavioural Science</i> <i>2. Biblical Studies specialising in</i> <i>a. Old Testament Studies</i> <i>b. New Testament Studies</i> <i>3. Church and Mission Studies specialising in</i> <i>a. Church History</i> <i>b. Mission Studies and World Christianity</i> <i>c. Practical Theology</i> <i>4. Studies in Faith and World Views specialising in</i> <i>a. Philosophy of Religion</i> <i>b. Ethics</i> <i>c. Systematic Theology</i>
Credits	<i>120</i>
Cycle	<i>Second</i>
Programme code	<i>RARVT</i>
Details of approval	<i>Approved in accordance with the rules of procedure and delegation at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology 4 June 2012.</i> <i>Amended in accordance with the rules of procedure and</i>

2. Description of the programme of study

The aim of the Master's programme is to enable students to work independently, critically and professionally with issues of religious studies and theology in different professional sectors, such as churches and religious organisations, schools and education, culture and media, and aid organisations, within areas relating to integration and cultural encounters as well as health care. On completion of the programme, students shall possess specialised knowledge of and the ability to apply theories and methods of religious studies and the experience of individual research.

The programme objective is to provide students with a specialised understanding of how religions and world views affect and have affected societies and individuals. Comprising four specialisations within the main field, the programme is intended to strengthen and contribute to an increased understanding of the processes that affect people's approach to religion, values and world views. On completion of the programme, students shall be able to understand, assess and analyse issues and phenomena of religious studies and theology so as to contribute to the development of society. The student will also be expected to be able to offer guidance concerning issues of religion and world view.

*An early exit point is available to students who wish to obtain a **one-year Master's degree** (60 credits).*

FOR A DEGREE OF MASTER (120 CREDITS)

3. Learning outcomes

For a degree of **Master (120 credits)** the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- *demonstrate knowledge and understanding in Religious Studies and Theology, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in the chosen specialisation as well as insight into current research and development work, and*
- *demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge, especially in the chosen specialisation, and familiarity with research issues in Religious Studies and Theology.*

Competence and skills

- *demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the*

formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work

- *demonstrate a good ability to apply advanced methodology in Religious Studies and Theology*
- *demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and*
- *demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work in Religious Studies and Theology or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity in areas such as culture and education or churches and religious organisations.*

Judgement and approach

- *demonstrate the ability to make assessments informed by disciplinary, social and ethical issues of relevance to Religious Studies and Theology and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work*
- *demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.*

4. Course details

The Master's programme comprises:

1. *One compulsory course for all specialisations (15 credits)*
2. *Compulsory and elective courses for each specialisation (75 credits).*
3. *Optional courses (30 credits).*

Specialisation 1 History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science

Compulsory course for all specialisations, 15 credits

Methodology – Second cycle, 15 credits

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 75 credits

1. Religion, tradition and communication, 15 credits
2. History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
3. Second cycle course II in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits
4. Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 30 credits
or Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits, and Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional first- or second-cycle courses within or outside the main field.

**Specialisation 2
Biblical Studies**

Compulsory course for all specialisations, 15 credits

Methodology – Second cycle, 15 credits

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 75 credits

*1. Bible interpretation, 15 credits
2. Biblical Studies – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
3. Second cycle course II in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits
4. Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 30 credits
or Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits, and Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional first- or second-cycle courses within or outside the main field.

**Specialisation 3
Church and Mission Studies**

Compulsory course for all specialisations, 15 credits

Methodology – Second cycle, 15 credits

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 75 credits

*1. Religion, tradition and communication, 15 credits or Bible interpretation, 15 credits
2. Church and Mission Studies – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
3. Second cycle course II in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits
4. Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 30 credits
or Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits, and Master's (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional first- or second-cycle courses within or outside the main field.

**Specialisation 4
Studies in Faith and World Views**

Compulsory course for all specialisations, 15 credits

Methodology – Second cycle, 15 credits

Compulsory and elective courses for the

1. Religion, tradition and communication, 15 credits or Bible interpretation, 15 credits

specialisation, 75 credits

2. *Studies in Faith and World Views – Second cycle course I, 15 credits*
 3. *Second cycle course II in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*
 4. *Master’s (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 30 credits*
or Master’s (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits, and Master’s (120 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional first- or second-cycle courses within or outside the main field.

When applicable, start dates and availability in the academic year

The programme starts every autumn semester.

Schematic layout of the programme

Semester 1: Religion, tradition and communication, 15 credits or Bible interpretation, 15 credits
Second cycle course I, 15 credits
Semester 2: Methodology – Second cycle, 15 credits
Second cycle course II, 15 credits
Semester 3: Optional courses, 30 credits
Semester 4: Master’s thesis, 30 credits

5. Degree

1. Title of the degree in Swedish
 2. Title of the degree in English
- Teologie masterexamen or Filosofie masterexamen*
- Master of Theology (120 credits) or Master of Arts (120 credits)*

6. Admission requirements and selection criteria

1. Admission requirements
- To be admitted to the programme, applicants must have general eligibility for higher education studies and a Bachelor’s degree or the equivalent.*
Furthermore, the following specific admission requirements obtain for admission to the compulsory courses of each specialisation:

Specialisation 1, History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science: 30 level 2 credits in History of Religions or Religious Behavioural Science or Islamic Studies or Jewish Studies

Specialisation 2, Biblical Studies: 30 credits in Old Testament Studies including Hebrew or New Testament Studies including Greek

Specialisation 3, Church and Mission Studies: 30 level 2 credits in Church History or Mission Studies including World Christianity or Practical Theology

Specialisation 4, Studies in Faith and World Views: 30 level 2 credits in Philosophy of Religion, Ethics or Systematic Theology

7. Further information

1. Transitional provision *Students who were admitted to the Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies (approved 22 October 2008 with amendments 24 November 2008 and 31 May 2010) are entitled to complete the programme in accordance with the former curriculum up to and including 30 June 2018. Students on the former programme are also entitled to have their credits transferred to the new programme and complete it in accordance with the current syllabus.*

FOR A DEGREE OF MASTER (60 CREDITS)

3. Learning outcomes

For a degree of **Master (60 credits)** the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- *demonstrate knowledge and understanding in Religious Studies and Theology, including both an overview of the field and specialised knowledge in the chosen specialisation as well as insight into current research and development work, and*
- *demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge, especially in the chosen specialisation, and familiarity with research issues in Religious Studies and Theology.*

Competence and skills

- *demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues autonomously as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames*
- *demonstrate the ability to apply methodology in Religious Studies and Theology*
- *demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and*
- *demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work in Religious Studies and Theology or employment in some other qualified*

capacity in areas such as culture and education or churches and religious organisations.

Judgement and approach

- *demonstrate the ability to make assessments informed by disciplinary, social and ethical issues of relevance to Religious Studies and Theology and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work*
- *demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.*

4. Course details

**Specialisation 1
History of Religions and
Religious Behavioural
Science**

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 30 credits

*1. History of Religions and Religious Behavioural Science – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
2. Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional courses within or outside the main field of study, of which 15 credits must be in the second cycle.

**Specialisation 2
Biblical Studies**

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 30 credits

*1. Biblical Studies – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
2. Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional courses within or outside the main field of study, of which 15 credits must be in the second cycle.

**Specialisation 3
Church and Mission
Studies**

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 30 credits

*1. Church and Mission Studies – Second cycle course I, 15 credits
2. Master's (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional courses within or outside the main field of study, of which 15 credits must be in the second cycle

**Specialisation 4
Studies in Faith and World**

Views

Compulsory and elective courses for the specialisation, 30 credits

1. *Studies in Faith and World Views – Second cycle course I, 15 credits*
2. *Master’s (60 credits) degree project in the chosen specialisation, 15 credits*

Optional courses, 30 credits

The remaining 30 credits comprise optional courses within or outside the main field of study, of which 15 credits must be in the second cycle

When applicable, start dates and availability in the academic year

The programme starts every autumn semester.

Schematic layout of the programme

*Semester 1: Second cycle course I, 15 credits
Optional course(s), 15 credits*

*Semester 2: Optional course(s), 15 credits
Master’s thesis, 30 credits*

5. Degree

1. Title of the degree in Swedish *Teologie magisterexamen or Filosofie magisterexamen*
2. Title of the degree in English *Master of Theology (60 credits) or Master of Arts (60 credits)*

6. Admission requirements and selection criteria

1. Admission requirements *See above*

7. Further information

1. Transitional provisions *See above*