



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ARKN21, Text and Materiality, 15 credits

Text och materialitet, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2020-02-14 to be valid from 2020-02-14, autumn semester 2020.

General Information

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

Language of instruction: English

The course is normally taught in English. It can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached by both the lecturer and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of studies

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Archaeology

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Historical Osteology

Archaeology and Ancient History with specialization in Historical Archaeology

Archaeology and Ancient History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

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Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- provide a specialised account of the contents of the early texts studied
- in speech and writing reflect on and account for the social function of the text and the dynamics between text and speech and different text types in pre-modern society
- understand, explain and account for problems of interpretation in the intersection between object and text

Competence and skills

- in speech and writing comment on and explain early sources, for example literary texts, epic texts and different types of inscription
- judge texts with regard to their creation and contents but also to their importance and use in early periods
- understand and account for problems associated with early editions of early texts when it comes to translation, modernisation of language and interpretations
- interpret and take a deliberate position on the complexity of texts as sources of the past

Judgement and approach

- highly independently analyse how the presence of texts affects the interpretation of material culture
- critically discuss theoretical perspectives on the use of texts in early societies
- critically discuss the history of text criticism and the associated interpretative methodology.

Course content

The general theme of the course is the value of early texts as sources, and the relationship between text and materiality. We address the social function of texts, the dynamics between text and speech, text types, practical approaches to the physical text, the methodology of close reading, the creation of texts, the keeping and preservation of texts, texts on objects and in space. Furthermore, the course highlights problems and challenges associated with translations and editions of texts. Examples of sources may include Greek and Latin texts and epigraphy, runic inscriptions, Icelandic sagas, documentary sources, and letters. The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The aim of the lectures is to provide students with specialised methodological and theoretical perspectives and the aim of the seminars to subject a series of key texts to close reading and interpretation. The objective is to provide students with tools to become familiar with, interpret and take a position on the complexity of our sources to the past.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The seminars (8 to 10) are compulsory. Absence from a compulsory seminar is compensated through a written assignment.

Assessment

The assessment is based on an individual written assignment.

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.

Students are awarded one of the grades Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have passed a BA course, Level 3, in Archaeology, Historical Archaeology, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History, Historical Osteology, History, Latin, Greek, History of Ideas, History of Religion, or the equivalent.

Further information

1. 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.
2. Students on the Master's programme in Archaeology and Ancient History, HAAAH, are prioritised for admission to the course. The students are expected to have good written and oral proficiency in English.
3. The course is offered at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University

Subcourses in ARKN21, Text and Materiality

Applies from H20

2001 Text and materiality, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction