

Interaction: The role of women in religious communities and texts: Judaism, Christianity and Islam (10 ECTS)

Responsible teacher and institution

Outi Lehtipuu, University of Helsinki

Course content

In this course, students will analyze and compare the ways in which the role of women in both public and private spheres is delineated in early Jewish, Christian, and Islamic sources. Special attention is directed to those views that either promote or suppress the possibilities of women to be influential in their respective religious communities or traditions and to the arguments for these views. During the course, both primary sources, mainly in translations (Hebrew Bible, Jewish apocrypha and Rabbinic texts; New Testament and other early Christian writings; the Qur'an), and secondary literature will be read and studied. Furthermore, special emphasis is put on methodological questions and the impact of various reading strategies.

Time period

Teaching will take place starting on Monday, September 4th, 2017.

Compact seminar will take place in Lund, November 8–10. Participation in the compact seminar is mandatory for all students who wish to take the free exam.

Examination:

Paper to be handed in by December 22, 2017 (the question for those with a fixed exam will be announced on December 18).

Learning outcome

The student will acquire:

- Knowledge of differences and parallelisms between the three religious traditions pertaining to the role of women within these traditions.
- Skills in analyzing and discussing such differences using methods drawn from text analysis, history, archaeology, and social sciences.
- The ability to demonstrate such skills in practice and to communicate such knowledge in writing, including communication with the general audience.