### Thesis Colloquium **(TRVN03)**

**Course content**

The focus of this course is the art of writing an academic thesis and preparing the student for the upcoming master’s thesis. The course covers discussions on theory, method, previous research, research questions and problem as well as an introduction into issues of style and references to ancient source material that will directly prepare the student for future thesis-writing. Beside attending to the structure and format of previously written theses and dissertations, the student will conduct an independent survey of key literature pertaining to the topic to be explored in a future thesis, and plan an introductory chapter containing method, theory, previous research and problem formulation.

**Time Period**

E-learning week 42 (2024) - week 2 (2025)

**Instructors and Institution**

Katarina Pålsson (katarina.palsson@ctr.lu.se)

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Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University

**Compact seminar**: Lund, November 5–6, 2024

**Form of Teaching; Course Activities**

Instruction includes:

* Compact seminar
* E-learning

Instruction is provided via the internet (Canvas) and through a compact seminar in Lund, and is supported by tutorials at the student’s home university. Participation in the course forum on the internet is a requirement, as well as the submission of four written assignments.Students are provided with a reading list to be read independently, aided by introductions and weekly assignments on the internet through Canvas. The students may be asked to prepare some additional material for the compact seminar.

**Exam**

The course is examined through written exams. The student will write 4 papers of ca. 2–6 pages each, on a topic or questions provided by the instructor (at least 7 days prior to respective deadline). A page is defined as having 2400 characters, including spaces. The exams should be submitted by

1) November 12, 18.00, 2024

2) November 13, 18.00, 2024

3) December 18, 18.00, 2024

4) January 15, 18.00, 2025.

**Re-exam**

There are two opportunities to do a re-exam, 1) February 17–23, 2025, or 2) August 25–31, 2025. The student must register for those exams by sending an e-mail to one of the instructors three weeks prior to the exam date.

**Learning Outcomes**

The following represent the most important aspects of the learning outcomes. More details may be found in the RRE study plan:

<http://religious-studies.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/RRE-Study-Plan-2017-April.pdf>

On completion of the course the student shall

**Knowledge and understanding**

* be able to account for key notions of the theory and method relevant for the study of religion in antiquity in general and for the subject of the individual master’s thesis in particular, with reference to selected texts
* independently be able to identify and explain the ideological and theoretical implications and consequences of the choice of theory and method for the study of texts and objects from Antiquity

**Competence and skills**

* highly independently be able to apply theories and methods to the study of texts and objects from Antiquity
* be able to account in detail for the reconstruction of ancient cultures, applying relevant methods

**Judgement and approach**

* be able to critically and self-critically assess theoretical and methodological presuppositions and justify his or her own choice of theory and method, orally and in writing.