Welcome to
University College Stockholm
Stockholm School of Theology

Courses in English - Spring Semester 2020

- Apocrypha and Apocalypse
- Theology and the Desire to Change Things
- Body and Gender in Church History
- The Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities

www.ehs.se
Go abroad to deepen your understanding of religion and human rights in the contemporary world!

The wheels of modern life are spinning fast, and our lives are filled both with opportunities and challenges. A semester at the University College Stockholm offers you the chance to explore a number of these, particularly as they relate to religion in the public square, the possible contribution of theology to sustainability, human rights for ethnic minorities in a conflict-filled world, body and gender in the Church throughout history, and the importance of the non-canonical and apocalyptic texts for understanding the emergence of early Judaism and Christianity. The questions dealt with include:

- what do human rights mean for ethnic minorities in times of globalization and nationalism?
- how has femininity and masculinity been constructed in the history of the Church?
- how may we understand political and ecological perspectives in contemporary theology?
- in the melting pot emerging between the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and the New Testament and rabbinic times, which specific traits and theologies influenced early Judaism and Christianity?

Each spring semester we offer a full-time program in English for which international students are invited to apply. In particular, students from our international academic partners are invited. The courses will be examined either at the master's level or at the bachelor's.

Apocrypha and Apocalypse, 7.5 Credits

During the Second Temple period, a large number of Jewish texts, representing a wide variety of genres, were produced in Hebrew as well as in Aramaic and Greek. These texts were never included in the emerging canon of the Hebrew Bible, although some received a place in the Greek Old Testament and a few made their way into other Christian traditions. The role of these apocryphal texts in early Judaism and Christianity alike is often underestimated. In this course, a selection of apocryphal texts is studied with special emphasis on their continuity and relationship with earlier and later Jewish and Christian Scripture. Their specific traits and theologies are analyzed and their influence on Jewish and Christian tradition is highlighted. Special emphasis is given to the apocalyptic genre, its mythological roots, and the beliefs and streams of thought it represents. Texts with apocalyptic features are analyzed with the help of cognitive metaphor theories and with philosophy of religion models for the use and function of mythopoetic language.

On completion of the course the student is expected to:

- clearly and systematically account for the roots of apocryphal literature, its relationship to Jewish and Christian Scripture, and its role in the development of early Jewish and Christian tradition and theology
- be able to critically analyze apocryphal texts, especially in view of their social, political, and religious contexts
- display an in-depth understanding of the state of research regarding apocalypticism as genre and phenomenon
- demonstrate ability to independently read and investigate apocalyptic texts with mythopoetic models and metaphor theory, focusing particularly on world views and values.
Theology and the Desire to Change Things, 7.5 Credits

The desire to study theology is often linked to a desire to change things in the world. This course discusses and analyzes questions concerning the relationship between theology and politics, the possible contribution of theology to the sustainability of life, and the dynamics of different theological views concerning the political-theoretical function of theology. Political and ecological perspectives in contemporary theology are analyzed using Hannah Arendt’s political theory. The course takes up the social, ethical, and political consequences as three different perspectives in theology. The theological perspectives are in turn discussed in relation to secular theories of economics and ecology.

On completion of the course the student is expected to:
• show in-depth knowledge of three perspectives in contemporary political theology and show an advanced ability to use one of them as a tool for analysis
• show an in-depth understanding of and an ability to critically relate to Hannah Arendt’s concept of politics
• be able to argue independently and, on a systematic theological basis, analyze ecological or economic theory as it emerges in Diamond and Chomsky respectively.

Body and Gender in Church History, 7.5 Credits

Questions concerning body and gender have been widely discussed in both academia and the Church in recent decades. Historically, these questions have been closely interwoven. This course gives an overview of these themes in theology and in the life of the Church, including questions such as: To what extent can the Christian tradition be described as being hostile to the body or sex? How has femininity and masculinity been constructed in the history of the Church? In addition, views concerning celibacy, marriage, homosexuality and female religious leadership are examined by studying how these matters were approached throughout the history of the Church.

On completion of the course the student is expected to:
• demonstrate a good overview and in-depth knowledge of the history of Christianity from a gender historical perspective
• demonstrate knowledge of and be able to analyze theological perspectives on body and gender in Church history
• show the ability to independently and critically discuss central research issues regarding body and gender.

The Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities, 7.5 Credits

This course addresses the human rights of indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, taking up contemporary tensions such as religious, social and political conditions, between national sovereignty and collective and individual rights, as well as questions of identity. Significant emphasis is placed on the arguments that have been asserted by actual minority groups.

On completion of the course the student is expected to:
• show a comprehensive understanding of how indigenous peoples as well as the rights of ethnic and national minorities are defined in international law
• with good understanding of the theoretical framework critically discuss how these rights relate to the nation-state and to democracy
• demonstrate independent thinking and competence in undertaking research on indigenous peoples’ relationship to majority populations and cultural frameworks
• show a comprehensive understanding of the situation of indigenous peoples in Scandinavia and the world.
University College Stockholm/Enskilda Höskolan
Stockholm (EHS) offers programs at both undergraduate (bachelor’s) and postgraduate (master’s) levels in both theology and human rights, as well as doctoral programs in theology. EHS is the major provider of religious and human rights education in the Stockholm region.

EHS is one of the country’s leading institutions for training ministers for various denominations at the Stockholm School of Theology. Studies in human rights at the Stockholm School of Human Rights provide tools to enable justice and to fight against various forms of discrimination and oppression. EHS is also active in various parts of the world, supporting work towards democracy and peace.

The university college has a unique study environment and is one of the country’s most distinguished theological and human rights institutions, where students from various backgrounds, different faith traditions and convictions meet.

Located in Bromma, a few kilometres from the center of Stockholm and close to the Castle of Åkeshof and its nature reserve, EHS is a place for intensive study and reflection. In addition, there are convenient connections to central Stockholm within a few minutes’ walk, via the Metro system.

HOW TO APPLY?
Detailed information can be found on www.ehs.se. For enquiries, contact the assistant director of studies Josef Forsling:
Phone: +46(0)8-564 357 16. Email: josef.forsling@ehs.se. Read also www.studyinsweden.se.
Last day to complete the application is October 15th.