Female Saints in History (7,5 ECTS)

Level: 1st cycle  
Discipline: THEOLOGY (Theological Studies of Culture and Society or Church History)  
Course ID: 0247

Admission requirements  
General admission requirements for university studies. Students taking part in the course as a part of their Bachelor’s degree program must have completed Course A, Introduction in Philosophy and Theology (30 ECTS credits). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals  
After having completed the course the students are expected to:
- identify key stages in doctrinal development of the cult of saints
- link theological questions related with veneration of saints and the idea of sainthood with corresponding events in Church history
- identify these questions in source texts
- show a basic skill of setting source texts in their historical and theological context
- identify and discuss these aspects of veneration of saints and the idea of sainthood which are particularly interesting for a gendered research perspective

Course contents  
The course is structured chronologically, presenting the key stages in development of the cult of saints, giving a priority to these theological questions and problems which particularly relevant for studying female sainthood and veneration of female saints. The source texts are mostly authored by female saints. Secondary sources (theological and historical literature) serve as guidelines to historical and theological analysis of the historical sources.

Teaching and examination  
The course is given in English. Source texts are available in both English and Swedish (if possible). Secondary sources (readings) are in English. The course is given as "partly distance" with two weekend meetings in Vadstena and online teaching. Each week the students are given a short written assignment (max 100 words, 40% of the final mark) aimed at checking their active participation in readings and discussions. During the first meeting in Vadstena students are drafting their final essay (written examination, 2500 words, 60% of the final mark). Their progress is checked during the second meeting in Vadstena. This final essay is the main form of examination at the end of the course.

The final paper is preferably to be written in English; it is, however, also permitted to write it in Swedish.
Bibliography

Primary Sources


Secondary Sources


See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

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