



The Making of Human Sacredness (7,5 hp)

Level: 1st cycle
Discipline: THEOLOGY
Course ID: 0228

Admission requirements

General entry requirements for studies at universities. The course is a freestanding course.

Educational goals

To complete the course, students are expected to:

- Reflect on and analyze questions of human value and human inviolability;
- Acquire experience in working with these questions by conducting interviews and researching relevant literature;
- Show the ability to discuss such questions both in a longer written work as well as in shorter written reflections on the course website;
- Show the ability to verbally discuss these questions through participation in class discussions and exercises.

Course contents

Whether or not one considers people sacred in an absolute sense, one can analyze the cultural construction of human sacredness. What is it about the human being that is made inviolable, and how is that collective work accomplished, contested, and sometimes undone? We explore such questions by examining political and religious rituals, human-rights declarations, and the workings of general-welfare societies, as well as literature and film.

Teaching and examination

Course instruction takes the form of lectures, students' prepared interviews with invited guests, discussions of the literature, online discussions on the course website, practical exercises (public speaking), an analytical written assignment based on interview material, and a final take-home written assignment. Before each course meeting there will be required reading assignments. Each student will, during the course of one week, be part of an interview team with one or two other students, and through a literature search and development of interview questions, prepare an interview with an invited guest. The analytical written assignment can be done as a group project, concluding with an oral presentation.

The course is taught in English. The final take-home writing assignment may be done in English or Swedish.

Bibliography

The course literature includes articles by and about the invited guests—chosen by the interview team made up of students—as well as more theoretical articles and book extracts chosen by the instructor. Course material will be distributed each week and should be read in advance of the following course meeting. When possible, material available on the internet will be used.

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

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Valid as 2019-01-01