

## Ends of the World (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: PHILOSOPHY

Course ID: 0324

### 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).

### Educational goals

After completing the course, students are expected to:

- Be able to reflect on and analyze questions of existential risk and possible human extinction;
- Have acquired experience in working with these questions by conducting interviews and researching relevant literature;
- Be able to reflect on how to cope with, and take action in, a time of severe existential risk.

### Course content

How do we find purpose and meaning while living in the face of existential threats such as climate calamity and thermonuclear war? What can we learn from people in other historical periods who have anticipated the end of their civilization or of humanity itself? Aided by in-class interviews with invited guests, the course explores struggle and hope on the edge of an ending.

### Teaching and examination

Course instruction takes the form of lectures, students' prepared interviews with invited guests, discussions of the literature, practical exercises, an analytical written assignment based on interview material, and a final take-home written assignment. Before each course meeting there are required reading assignments. Each student will, during the course of one week, be part of an interview team with 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 or solo, concluding with an oral presentation. The course is taught in English, but certain written assignments may be done in English or Swedish.

### Bibliography

The course literature includes articles by and about the invited guests and their areas of concern -- chosen by the interview team made up of students -- as well as more theoretical articles and book extracts chosen by the instructors. Course material will be distributed each week and should be read

in advance of the following course meeting. Whenever possible, material available on the internet will be used.

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

Finalised 2020-01-08, rev. 2022-10-08

Valid as 2023-01-15