

Course Syllabus for **Knowledge of the Bible and the Church of Sweden, 5 credits**

Constitution of the course of studies

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department for Diacony and Theology, Ersta-Sköndal University College on June 7, 2005. The course forms part of the Church of Sweden lay welfare worker training carried out by Ersta-Sköndal University College in co-operation with Vårsta Diaconic Centre.

Educational objectives

- to contribute to the students' understanding of similarities and dissimilarities between different Christian Churches today
- to awaken in students an understanding of the historical and ideological importance of the Bible – especially in the context of social and diaconic work
- to give in-depth treatment to central issues of the Christian Faith from a diaconic perspective

Course content

The course gives an orientation in the origins of the Bible and the main ideas found therein concerning the image of God, views of mankind, oppression and deliverance, and gender. Also given is an orientation in expressions of the Christian Faith and the various interpretations of Christianity offered by the different Christian Churches, above all in the contemporary context.

Methods of instruction

Instruction is in the form of lectures, textbook seminars, and group work.

Attendance

Attendance at lectures and seminars is obligatory. Absence of more than 20 per cent but less than 35 per cent may be compensated for by completion of special assignments. In the event of an absence of 35 per cent or more, the student is required to attend missed lectures and/or seminars the next time the course is given.

Examination and grading

The course is graded through performance in seminars as well as an individual written exam. The grades given are pass or fail.

Textbooks

- *Bibel 2000 med Noter Parallellhänvisningar och Tillägg: Mundior*, Örebro: Marcus 2001
- Agrell, G (2000), *Böcker för livet*, Stockholm: Verbum (chosen sections, 150 pp*)
- Aurelius, Carl Axel (1995), *Hjärtpunkten, Evangeliets bruk som nyckel till Augburgska bekännelsen*, Skellefteå: Artos (140 pp)
- Borgehammar, S (red) (2001), *Kyrkans liv*, Uppsala: Universitetsstryckeriet (chosen sections, 80 pp*)
- *Kyrkoordning – med angränsande lagstiftning för Svenska kyrkan*, 1999 (chosen sections, 45 pp)
- Luther, M, *Stora katekesen* (two Commandments and the Sacrament, 30 pp)
- Nolan, A (1992), *Jesus before Christianity*. Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books (170 pp*)

Other articles will be added to the above, i.a. on deliverance theology.

* sold at Vårsta