UPPSALA
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General Syllabus for the Third-cycle Programme in

Biblical Exegesis

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Third-cycle study programmes at the Faculty of Theology

The Faculty of Theology conducts third-cycle studies in a number of subjects, each of which encompasses diverse specialisations. The interaction of subjects and specialisations constitutes a quality-enhancing element of the third-cycle courses and study programmes offered by the faculty.

Announcements regarding available places on the faculty's third-cycle study programmes are normally made on an annual basis on the websites of Uppsala University and the Department of Theology. Applicants are selected from among those who meet the entry requirements based on their ability to benefit from third-cycle studies assessed on scientific criteria.

While admissions to the Faculty of Theology are restricted to Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, students are permitted to conclude their studies with a Degree of Licentiate. The subject has two specialisations: *Hebrew Bible Exegesis* and *New Testament Exegesis*.

Outcomes

Pursuant to the Qualification Ordinance (Annex 2 to the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100)), for the award of a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Degree of Licentiate the doctoral student shall achieve the following outcomes.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy	**Degree of Licentiate**
Knowledge and understanding	**Knowledge and understanding**
Demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field.	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.
Demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.	
Competence and skills	**Competence and skills**
Demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically.	
Demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work.	Demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time

	frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work.
Demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research.	
Demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general.	Demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general.
Demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge.	
Demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.	Demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.
Judgement and approach	**Judgement and approach**
Demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics.	Demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research.
Demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.	Demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.
	Demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Entry requirements

The requirements for admission to third-cycle courses and study programmes are that the applicant meets the general and specific entry requirements that the Faculty Board has laid down, and is considered in other respects to have the ability required to benefit from the course or study programme (SFS 2010:1064, Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 7 Section 35). The Board of the Faculty of Theology decides on regulations for specific entry requirements (AFUU § 2, RUF § 4).[1]

[1] Please see "Other provisions" at the end of this document for a list of governance documents including abbreviations.

General entry requirements

A person meets the general entry requirements for third-cycle courses and study programmes if he or she: has been awarded a second-cycle qualification; has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits, of which at least 60 credits were awarded in the second-cycle; or has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad. The higher education institution may permit an exemption from the general entry requirements for an individual applicant, if there are special grounds (SFS 2010:1064, Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 7 Section 39).

Specific entry requirements

Specific entry requirements for admission to a third-cycle course or study programme in Biblical Exegesis are:

- At least 30 higher education (HE) credits in religious studies at first or second cycle.
- A degree project of at least 15 HE credits at second cycle specialising in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis.
- In addition, each specialisation requires courses in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis and biblical languages of at least 75 HE credits, as follows:

  a) For Hebrew Bible Exegesis: 45 HE credits in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis specialising in the Hebrew Bible, including at least 15 HE credits for language studies in Biblical Hebrew. An additional 15 HE credits are required in Biblical or Ancient Greek, plus 15 HE credits from courses specialising in either the New Testament or rabbinic literature.

  b) for New Testament Exegesis: 45 HE credits in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis specialising in the New Testament, including 15 HE credits in language studies in Biblical or Ancient Greek. An additional 15 HE credits are required in Biblical Hebrew, plus at least 15 HE credits from courses specialising in the Hebrew Bible.

For admission to third-cycle studies in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis, specializing in the profile area Jewish Thought, the following additional requirements apply:

- The independent scholarly work must, in addition to its disciplinary focus, also have a focus on Jewish Thought. Furthermore, the applicant must possess proficiency in languages relevant to the primary source material of the proposed doctoral thesis.

Content and structure of the study programme

Programme structure

The third-cycle study programme in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis concludes with a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy or Degree of Licentiate. The programme covers 240 HE credits for a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and 120 HE credits for a Degree of Licentiate.

A third-cycle study programme in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis that concludes with a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy covers four years of net study time and consists of courses totalling 90 HE credits and a doctoral dissertation of 150 HE credits.

A third-cycle study programme in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis that concludes with a Degree of Licentiate covers two years of net study time and consists of courses totalling 60 HE credits and a licentiate thesis of 60 HE credits.

While the course component is usually completed before the dissertation component, the student is recommended to begin work on their thesis project during the first year of study. This is done by developing the project in terms of its purpose, research issues, study materials and theoretical and methodological approach, as well as the design of the planned dissertation.

Teaching takes place in the form of courses, individual and group supervision and research seminars during which the dissertation component is publicly discussed. Participation in the research seminar for the subject is compulsory.

The research seminar convenes weekly during term time. In addition to doctoral students' dissertation projects and texts written by senior researchers, there will also be discussion of texts focused on theory, methodology and research ethics.

At the research seminar, doctoral students are expected to present their own material, defend their research and review the research of others. The presented texts are reviewed in various ways. Doctoral students will sometimes be asked to review each other's texts, while on occasion external guests will be invited to join public discussions. The seminar involves various forms of public discussion, even when no specific opponent has been appointed. All of those attending the seminar are responsible for actively participating so that seminars can bear fruit and propel research projects forward.

Where necessary, joint seminars will be arranged with other research subjects at the Department of Theology and Uppsala University in order to create thematic seminars, invite guests and offer doctoral students a wider research context.

Graduate schools have been established with other higher education institutions within the subject specialisations. Graduate schools arrange meetings each semester as part of regular seminar activities. At graduate schools, doctoral students' papers are publicly discussed, teachers present new research perspectives and certain course activities are conducted.

Within the framework of ongoing, multifaceted seminar activities, the doctoral student achieves a broader perspective on the subject and is trained in a systematic understanding of the research subject as a whole. Ongoing seminar participation contributes to an understanding of scientific methodology, as well as specifically training the doctoral student's ability to present their work orally. It also actualises issues such as the possibilities and limitations of science, its societal role and responsibility for how it is put to use.

Supervision

Two supervisors will be appointed for each doctoral student: one principal supervisor, who bears the main responsibility for course work and the doctoral thesis; and one assistant supervisor. At least one of the supervisors shall be an employee of or adjunct to Uppsala University. Supervisors shall have a doctorate/
equivalent and at least one of the supervisors shall have the qualifications required for appointment to a readership (AFUU § 1).

The doctoral student retains the right to supervision throughout their studies, unless the vice-chancellor decides otherwise with the support of Chapter 6 Section 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance.

This implies that a full-time student studying for a degree of doctor of philosophy is entitled to supervision for four years and for a degree of licentiate two years. Part-time students retain the right to equivalent supervision, but limited to a maximum period of eight years. The scope of supervision should be such that the doctoral student is regularly offered the opportunity to discuss any problems with the supervisor, primarily with regard to the design and content of their dissertation.

Principal supervisors must complete supervisor training no later than during their first year as supervisors. The format and scope of such training are determined by the Faculty Board.

A doctoral student who so requests shall be allowed to change supervisor (SFS 2010:1064, Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 6 Section 28).

Individual study plan

An individual study plan shall be established for each doctoral student. The Faculty of Theology has a template showing what an individual study plan should contain. The Faculty Board has delegated the establishment of individual study plans to the Department of Theology's director of third-cycle studies or, in the event that the director of studies is themselves the supervisor, the head of department. The individual study plan shall be established in consultation with the doctoral student and her or his supervisor. Individual study plans shall be updated, revised and decided on an annual basis.

The individual study plan is reviewed at least four times a year by the advisor and the doctoral student together, including the preparation of a study plan for newly admitted students. During the review, any deviations and their causes should be noted. In the event of major deviations, the study plan should be revised during the academic year. Minor deviations should be noted in the following year’s study plan.

The period of study may only be extended if there are special grounds for doing so. Such grounds may comprise leave of absence because of illness, leave of absence for service in the defence forces or an elected position in a trade union or student organisation, or parental leave. Before a study programme is extended, the doctoral student and supervisors shall be afforded the opportunity express an opinion regarding the grounds for and scope of the extension.

The doctoral student, supervisors and director of third-cycle studies shall certify in writing that they have familiarised themselves with the individual study plan and the revisions made to it (Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 6 Section 29).

Courses

A third-cycle study programme in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis that concludes with a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy consists of courses totalling 90 HE credits. The following courses are included in the study programme.

Faculty-wide courses:

Introduction to Doctoral Studies, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to introduce newly admitted doctoral students to third-cycle studies with regard to elements such as: academic writing, writing various types of dissertation (monographs and compilation dissertations), research ethics and seminar culture. Through the course, doctoral students familiarise themselves with the breadth of the faculty’s research.

Examination format: Active participation and written assignment.

- *Academic Teacher Training Course*, 7.5 HE credits.[2]

This course is held by the Unit for Academic Teaching and Learning at Uppsala University.

Common courses:

- *Judaism in the Second Temple Era*, 7.5 HE credits.

  Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the diversity of Judaism during the Second Temple Era. Study of source texts in translation (selections from the Dead Sea Scrolls, pseudepigrapha and apocrypha) is supplemented by reading secondary literature.

  Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

Courses in the specialisation Hebrew Bible Exegesis:

A. Compulsory courses

- *Septuagint Studies and Textual Criticism*, 7.5 HE credits.

  Content: This course is intended to provide a deeper insight into both textual critical practice and the history of Bible translation. The course literature deals with written witness testimony to the Hebrew Bible: manuscripts and antique translations (specifically Septuagint). The course covers comparative study of extracts from Septuagint and equivalent sections in Masoretic texts.

  Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

The majority of compulsory courses consist of three blocks that relate to the three traditional divisions of the Hebrew Bible: *Torah* (Law or Instruction), narratives, laws and methods; *Nevi'im* (the Prophets), prophetic texts and historical contexts; and *Ketuvim* (Writings), poetry, theology, and reception. Each block consists of two courses: one course studying the source texts in the original language and one literature course that is in part related to the text studies and in part is intended to provide advanced competence in various aspects of Hebrew Bible Exegesis.

Block I, *Torah*: Narratives, laws and methods

- *Narratives and Legal Texts from the Hebrew Bible*, 7.5 HE credits.

[2] Upon application to the Faculty Board, this course may, under certain circumstances, be substituted for another course in the general curriculum.

Content: The course includes studies of approximately 80 pages of Hebrew text consisting of narratives and legal texts, at least half of which are drawn from Pentateuch. Scientific commentary literature will be read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Pentateuch Studies and Exegetical Methods*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the following fields: Pentateuchal research; Christian and Jewish interpretations of Pentateuch (Torah/Five Books of Moses); exegetical methods (e.g. historical-critical methodology, narrative criticism, feminist criticism and ideology criticism); research ethics and good research practice.

Examination formats: written assignment or scientific review, and oral presentation.

Block II, *Nevi'im*: Prophetic texts and historical contexts

- *Prophetic literature from the Hebrew Bible*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course includes studies of approximately 60 pages of Hebrew text consisting of a selection of different genres of prophetic literature from the Hebrew Bible. Scientific commentary literature will be read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Prophecy and History*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge in the following fields: prophecy research; the history and archaeology of Israel and Judah; the ancient history of the Mediterranean region and Mesopotamia; religious practices in Israel and Judah in biblical times.

Examination formats: written assignment or scientific review, and oral presentation.

Block III, *Ketuvim*: Poetry, theology, and reception

- *Poetic Texts from the Hebrew Bible,* 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course includes studies of approximately 60 pages of Hebrew text consisting of a selection from the book of Psalms, wisdom literature and other poetic texts. Scientific commentary literature will be read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Theological Traditions and Reception Studies*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge in the following fields: research into the book of Psalms and wisdom literature; theological traditions in the Hebrew Bible; reception studies, including both theological interpretation traditions and the reception of biblical texts and motifs in culture and politics.

Examination format: written assignment and an academic paper or popular science lecture.

B. Elective courses

- *Developing Key Skills*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to develop the doctoral student's general abilities and to coach various approaches to presenting (Bible)scientific work in writing and orally and in various contexts.

Examination format: scientific review, popular science article or lecture, and academic paper.

- *Subject Matter Didactic Course*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to develop the doctoral student's subject didactic skills. This is achieved through practical training, didactic reflections on the teaching provided, and studies of pedagogical and didactic literature with a focus on Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis, with the emphasis on Hebrew Bible exegesis.

Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

- *Biblical Aramaic*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: Language course in Biblical Aramaic, including the study of Bible texts written in Aramaic (largely taken from the Book of Daniel). If possible, the course will be read at another department. Otherwise it will be offered as self-study with teacher support.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Theory, method, and history of research*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the history of research in the field of Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis and of exegetical theory and methods. In terms of history of research, particular attention is paid to Hebrew Bible exegesis.

Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

- *Reception of Biblical Texts*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the early and/or modern reception of a selection of biblical texts and motifs, preferably from the Hebrew Bible. In addition to relevant secondary literature, the course will include studies of the reception of selected texts and motifs in various media and genres; e.g., bible commentaries, paraphrases, liturgical texts, pedagogic material, fiction, visual arts, cinema, etc.

Examination forms: written assignment and popular science article or lecture.

- *Text Course in Biblical Studies*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course includes studies of secondary Hebrew Bible and New Testament exegesis literature with optional specialisation, preferably literature of relevance to the student's dissertation.

Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation at the research seminar.

- *Course of relevance for the dissertation,* 7.5 HE credits.

An examined course in a different specialisation (New Testament Exegesis) or subject (at Uppsala University or another higher education institution), corresponding to at least 7.5 HE credits, may be credited if it is deemed relevant to the student's dissertation by their principal supervisor.

Courses within the specialisation New Testament Exegesis

A. Compulsory courses

I. In addition to the common courses, another course offering background to the New Testament:

- *The Ancient Mediterranean World,* 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge in the following field: diversity in Hellenic and Roman history, philosophy, literature and religion. The course includes studies of Greco-Roman source texts and secondary literature dealing with Greco-Roman cultural and historical contexts within which early Christian traditions emerged.

Examination format: written assignment and comparative analysis.

II. Four courses on the 27 books of the New Testament (30 HE credits) broken down as follows: (1) the synoptic Gospels, (2) the Johannine writings, (3) the Pauline epistles, and (4) other New Testament epistles. Together, these courses offer deeper insight into the basic texts and research on New Testament scriptures and the diversity of orientations within the early Christian movement.

- *The Historical Jesus and the Synoptic Gospels*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course consists of studies of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, as well as research into the historical Jesus. The course includes studies of texts in Greek, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *The Johannine Writings*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: On this course, students will study various aspects of five New Testament texts (the Gospel of John; John's First, Second and Third Epistles; and Revelations). The course includes studies of texts in Greek, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Paul and the Acts of the Apostles*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course examines various aspects of eight New Testament texts: the seven Pauline epistles (Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians and Philemon) and the Acts of the Apostles (esp. regarding Paul's nature in comparison to Paul's own letters). The course includes studies of texts in Greek, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *The Deutero-Pauline and Catholic Letters*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course examines various aspects of six epistles attributed to Paul (Colossians, Ephesians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus) and five other New Testament epistles (Hebrews, Jacob, 1and 2 Peter and Jude). The course includes studies of texts in Greek, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Theory, method, and history of research*, 7.5 HE credits.

  Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the history of research in the field of Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis and of exegetical theory and methods. In terms of history of research, particular attention is paid to New Testament exegesis.

  Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

- *Late Ancient Christianity*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The field of research traditionally referred to as *patristics* focuses on Christian literature and theological and historical developments during the period circa 200 and 700 CE. The course includes studies of source texts, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and comparative analysis.

B. Elective courses

- *Septuagint*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide a deeper insight into Ancient Greek translations of the Hebrew Bible – especially Septuagint but even other translations (e.g. Aquila

and Theodotion) – as well as the use of Septuagint in the New Testament. The course includes studies of source texts, with scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *The Apostolic Fathers*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to provide advanced knowledge of the Apostolic Fathers, whose writings mostly date from the period circa 100 to 150 CE. This course is a suitable continuation of *The Deutero-Pauline and Catholic Letters*, bridging the gap to the course *Late Ancient Christianity.* The course includes studies of source texts in translation, as well as a selection of texts in Greek. Scientific literature read alongside the texts.

Examination format: written assignment and oral examination.

- *Subject Matter Didactic Course*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course is intended to develop the doctoral student's subject didactic skills. This is achieved through practical training, didactic reflections on the teaching provided, and studies of pedagogical and didactic literature with a focus on Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis, with the emphasis on New Testament exegesis.

Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

- *Studies in Ancient Languages: Coptic, Latin or Syriac)*, one course for 7.5 HE credits or two courses for a total of 15 HE credits.

Content: At another department or higher education institution, the doctoral student will study these languages, ideally to deepen their understanding of earlier studies. Other ancient languages relevant to the doctoral student's dissertation can also be discussed.

Examination format: the format that applies at the department in question.

- *History of Reception*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: This course deals with medieval and modern receptions of New Testament traditions. In addition to relevant secondary literature, the course will include studies of the reception in various media and genres; e.g., Bible commentaries, music, visual arts and fiction. There will also be an element of interpreting the New Testament through the Church Fathers. The selection will be made in dialogue between the teacher and the doctoral student.

Examination format: written assignment and oral presentation.

- *Text Course in Biblical Studies*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The course involves studies of secondary Hebrew Bible and New Testament exegesis literature with optional specialisation, preferably literature of relevance to the student's dissertation.

Examination format: paper and oral presentation at the research seminar.

- *Studies in the Hebrew Bible*, 7.5 HE credits.

Content: The doctoral student will choose one of the courses specialising in Hebrew Bible exegesis.

Examination format: the format that applies to the chosen course.

A third-cycle study programme in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis that concludes with a Degree of Licentiate consists of courses totalling 60 HE credits.

Knowledge examination

Each course within the study programme concludes with a written and/or oral examination. Generally speaking, the courses are individual reading courses. Examination will take place in various forms: (1) individual or group discussion with supervisors based on various types of written assignments; (2) oral presentation in groups or seminar situations; (3) authorship of scientific reviews or articles; (4) presentation at conferences. Graded discussions and presentations relate to either the content of course literature or problems that the doctoral student has addressed with the help of the course literature and may also include skills-training elements.

Depending on the various examination formats stated at the end of each course and in the general syllabus, some adaption may be made to the examination format to meet the specific needs of the individual doctoral student. These types of adaption are implemented in consultation with the doctoral student in the interests of achieving the qualitative target of the study programme.

Examinations are graded as either Pass (G) or Fail (F). The principal supervisor is the examiner but may delegate the examination of individual course components to the assistant supervisor or another teacher at the department/within the subject area, within the framework of assigned supervision hours. The director of third-cycle studies is the examiner for faculty-wide courses.

Credit transfer

Any decision to transfer credits from a Swedish or foreign study programme or other activity at third-cycle level is made by the examiner (principal supervisor). The signed decision is registered and archived at the department together with supporting documentation. Credit transfers must be approved by the director of third-cycle studies before they can be reported in Ladok.

Credits may be transferred from courses at another Swedish higher education institution or foreign higher education institution (regardless of study cycle), and from first and second-level courses at Uppsala University (although not if the course has been taken after the commencement of third-cycle studies) and courses at freestanding Swedish or overseas institutes or centres organised by one or more higher education institutions.

Dissertation and defence

Dissertation

For a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, the doctoral student shall write a doctoral dissertation corresponding to 150 HE credits. This shall be based on independent research and make a significant contribution to research in the subject.

The subject of the dissertation shall be decided in consultation with the supervisors. A doctoral dissertation can be designed as either a single coherent scientific paper (monograph) or a compilation of scientific articles with a linking theme (compilation dissertation) that the doctoral student has written alone or jointly with another person.

Doctoral dissertations must be written in Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, English, German or French. The Faculty Board may permit a doctoral thesis to be written in another language. This should be notified in conjunction with admission to the third-cycle programme.

In the event that a doctoral thesis is written in a language that is not internationally accessible, a summary shall be included in such a language. In addition, a brief summary of the main points (abstract) shall be attached to the dissertation.

The quality of the doctoral dissertation shall be such that it meets reasonable requirements to be accepted for publication in a scientific forum.

The manuscript of the dissertation shall be presented at one or more research seminars or undergo a similar peer review through the department. The use of government appropriations for the printing of doctoral dissertations is governed by the rules determined by the Faculty Board.

Where applicable, this also applies to licentiate theses. A licentiate thesis corresponds to 60 HE credits and shall demonstrate the doctoral student's scientific ability to address problems that arise in the field of study.

Once a final manuscript for the dissertation is available, it shall be presented for review at the research seminar. At this seminar, an external assessor will be engaged who is familiar with the subject.

Based on the discussion that takes place at the final seminar, the head of subject and the supervisors, in consultation with the reviewer, will decide whether a public defence can take place. Unless special reasons exist, a minimum of 80 course credits must have been earned before a public defence can be made.

Defence

A doctoral dissertation shall be defended orally and in public. The time and place of the defence is decided by the Faculty Board. The public defence shall be announced in good time (no later than three weeks) through electronic posting.

At the time of registration, the doctoral dissertation shall be available at the University in sufficient copies to make it possible to conduct a satisfactory review of the dissertation at the defence.

A chairperson shall be appointed to chair the defence. An opponent shall also be appointed. Decisions regarding the appointment of the chairperson, opponent and examining committee are made by the Faculty Board.

A doctoral thesis shall be assessed with one of the grades Pass (G) or Fail (F). When grading, due consideration shall be given to the content of the dissertation and to the defence of the dissertation. The grade for a doctoral thesis shall be decided by the examination committee, which is appointed specifically for each dissertation.

For further information on dissertations and defences, please refer to the Guidelines for Third-cycle Courses and Study Programmes at the Faculty of Theology.

Licentiate seminar

Licentiate thesis shall be publicly discussed at a research seminar on the subject. The thesis shall be available for a period of three weeks prior to the date it is defended at the seminar. The announcement of the public discussion shall also be made no later than three weeks in advance on the department's notice board and notified to the Faculty of Theology in Uppsala and to any other relevant departments that conduct third-cycle studies. The opponent for the public discussion of a licentiate thesis is appointed by the Board of the Faculty of Theology based on a proposal from the head of subject. Under normal circumstances, the opponent is the head of subject. If the head of subject has been the student's supervisor, the head of subject will appoint another examiner, usually a teacher of that subject or another subject at the Department of Theology. The examiner must at the least be qualified for appointment to a readership. The grade is set by the examiner after the public seminar and having obtained the opinion of the opponent.

Degree

The Faculty of Theology may award the third-cycle qualifications *Degree of Licentiate* and *Degree of Doctor of Philosophy* in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis. Under certain circumstances, the Faculty Board may, upon application by a doctoral student—which must be submitted to the Board no later than the Faculty Board meeting that takes place prior to the notification of the public defence—grant an exemption for the completion of a Doctor of Philosophy (Faculty of Theology) or Licentiate degree. The English name for the degree is *Doctor of Philosophy (Faculty of Theology*).

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Faculty of Theology) is achieved once the doctoral student has completed a third-cycle study programme of 240 higher education credits in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis and has thus received the grade Pass for the examinations included in the programme and written and publicly defended a doctoral dissertation that has been approved by the examination committee.

The Degree of Licentiate in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis is achieved once the doctoral student has completed a study programme of 120 higher education credits in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Exegesis and has thus received the grade Pass for the examinations included in the programme and written and at a seminar publicly defended a licentiate thesis that has been approved by the examiner.

Degree certificates are issued by Uppsala University by application to the Graduation Office.

Entry into force and transitional provisions

The present general syllabus for third-cycle programmes enters into force on 1 December 2020 (TEOLFAK 2020/7). The previous general syllabus ceases to apply to doctoral students admitted to third-cycle programmes on or after 1 September 2020. Doctoral students admitted prior to this date can choose to either follow the existing general syllabus or switch to the new syllabus during a transitional period, although no later than 2028.

The general syllabus was last updated by the Faculty Board on June 2, 2026.

Other provisions

Statutory provisions applicable to third-cycle courses and study programmes can be found in:

- the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100), Chapter 5 (rules on the employment of doctoral students), Chapter 6 (regulations for all courses and study programmes), and Chapter 7 (describes the admission process).
- Guidelines for Third-Cycle Studies at Uppsala University (RUF), ref. no. UFV 2022/728.
- Admission Rules and Grading Regulations for Third-cycle Courses and Study Programmes at Uppsala University (AFUU), ref. no. UFV 2022/729.
- Guidelines for Third-cycle Courses and Study Programmes at the Faculty of Theology, ref. no. TEOLFAK 2020/81.