



LUND UNIVERSITY

Humanities and Theology
Centre for Theology and Religious Studies

Required reading for

TRV N15 Religious Roots of Europe: The Study of Ancient Religion, 15 ECTS, Fall Semester 2026

as approved by the Director of Studies on 4 June 2026

Literature Part I: Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion

- Asad, Talal. *Genealogies of Religion: Discipline and Reasons of Power in Christianity and Islam*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993, pp. 171–199.
- Assman, Jan. “Monotheism and Polytheism.” Pages 17–31 in *Ancient Religions*. Edited by Sarah Iles Johnston. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2007.
- Beard, Mary. “Writing and Religion.” Pages 127–138 in *Ancient Religions*. Edited by Sarah Iles Johnston. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2007.
- Bellah, Robert N. *Religion in Human Evolution: From the Paleolithic to the Axial Age*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press 2011, ix-xxiv, 1–398, 567–681.
- Boyarin, Daniel. *Judaism: The Genealogy of a Modern Notion*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 2019.
- Collins, John J. “Cosmology: Time and History.” Pages 59–70 in *Ancient Religions*. Edited by Sarah Iles Johnston. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2007.
- Dubuisson, Daniel. *The Invention of Religions*. Equinox: Sheffield, 2019, pp. 141–150.
- Eckart, Otto. “Law and Ethics.” Pages 84–97 in *Ancient Religions*. Edited by Sarah Iles Johnston. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2007.
- Girard, René. *Things Hidden since the Foundation of the World*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 1987.

- Jensen, Jeppe Sinding. *What is Religion?* Durham: Acumen 2014, p. 1–171.
- Lincoln, Bruce, “Theses on Method”: <https://religion.ua.edu/links/theses-on-method/>
- Schmitz, Thomas A. *Modern Literary Theory and Ancient Texts: An Introduction*. Blackwell, Malden, 2007, pp. 17–25.
- Stausberg, Michael. “There is Life the Old Dog Yet: An Introduction to Contemporary Theories of Religion.” Pages 1–21 in *Contemporary Theories of Religion: A Critical Companion*. Edited by Michael Stausberg. London: Routledge 2009.

Literature Part II: Jews and Gentiles in the Roman Empire

- Ascough, Richard. “What Are They Now Saying about Christ Groups and Associations?” *Currents in Biblical Research* 13 (2015): 207–244.
- Goodman, Martin. *Rome and Jerusalem: The Clash of Ancient Civilizations*. London: Penguin, 2008.
- Hayes, Christine. *The Emergence of Judaism: Classical Traditions in Contemporary Perspective*. Minneapolis, Fortress, 2011, pp. 73–87.
- Kloppenborg, John S. *Christ’s Associations: Connecting and Belonging in the Ancient City* New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019, pp. 1–54.
- Runesson, Anders. “Placing Paul: Institutional Structures and Theological Strategy in the World of the Early Christ-Believers.” *Svensk Exegetisk Årsbok* 80 (2015): 43–67.
- Tripolitis, Antonía. *Religions of the Hellenistic-Roman Age*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.
- Zetterholm, Magnus. “The Paul within Judaism Perspective.” Pages 171–193 in *Perspectives on Paul: Five Views*. Edited by S. McKnight and B. J. Oropeza. Baker Academic, Grand Rapids, 2020.
- Zetterholm, Magnus. “Gentiles and their Relations to Jews.” Pages 486–505 in *The Oxford Handbook of the Synoptic Gospels*. Edited by Ahearne-Kroll, S. P. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.