MÄLARDALEN ESOTERICISM SEMINARS (MES)

SPRING 2025

DESCRIPTION

The Mälardalen Esotericism Seminars (MES) is a collaborative series of research seminars bringing together established scholars, PhD candidates and advanced students researching various aspects of esotericism at universities in the Mälardalen area. Seminars focus on work in progress by MES members or invited scholars, and on discussion of new developments in the field. MES currently consists of regular participants from Stockholm University, Södertörn University, Linköping University, and Uppsala University. In Spring 2025 the seminars will be hosted at Stockholm University and Södertörn University.

For information about the seminar series or to join the mailing list, please contact Egil Asprem (egil.asprem@rel.su.se).

PROGRAM

February 5, 14.00–16.00 (Stockholm University, D4120):

Per Faxneld (Södertörn University): "Spirituality in Ninjutsu". Presentation of a recent article published in *The Vienna Journal of East Asian Studies*.

[Extra] February 19, 9.30–12.30 (Stockholm University, Gula villan, Minerva)

PhD workshop: *Socialist Mysticism, Mystical Socialism: Political Radicalism and Alternative Religiosity in the Decades around 1900***.** Co-organized with prof. Julian Strube, University of Göttingen. Presenting: Konstantin Moser, Felix Janina Gräsche, Misha Kakabadze. Responding: Ansgar Martins. (Registration required).

March 11, 14.00–16.00 (Södertörn University, F11):

Rikard Friberg von Sydow (SH): "The Gutter Bible: Magick, Self-Publishing and Breach of Privacy"

April 3, 16.40–18.00 (*Note the time!* Södertörn University, F11):
Manon Hedenborg White (Malmö): Presentation of a new VR-sponsored research project.

May 7, 14.00–16.00 (Stockholm University, D4120/Hybrid):
Focus seminar (hybrid): A conversation with Wouter J. Hanegraaff (University of Amsterdam) on his new textbook: *Esotericism and Western Culture: Counter-Normativity and Rejected Knowledge* (Bloomsbury, 2025). Zoom-link will be distributed ahead of the seminar.

June 11, 14.00–16.00 (SU/SH - *TBD*):

Pre-conference session. An opportunity to rehearse draft conference papers to be delivered over the summer (e.g. at the ESSWE in Vilnius, IAHR in Kraków).