

CURRICULUM VITÆ

Erik A. W. Östling

Last updated: May 14, 2024

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Erik Östling

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EDUCATION

M.A. (60 credits) History of Religions, Stockholm University, 2024

Thesis credited from previous academic output.

B.A. History of Religions, Stockholm University, 2014

Thesis: The Raëlian Biblical Exegesis in Relation to Occulture and the Cultic Milieu.

Upper secondary school:

Natural Science Program, Nacka Gymnasium, 1999–2002.

Other relevant education:

- Faculty of Humanities director of studies course, Stockholm University, 2018–2019.

- Basic Course on Administrative Law (Förvaltningsrättslig översiktscurs), 15 credits, Uppsala University, 2023.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Administrative director of studies,

Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, May 2018 – ongoing.

Study advisor & international coordinator,
Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, October 2016 – May 2018.

Academic administrator,
Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, February 2012 – September 2016.

Administrator,
Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, January 2012.

Amanuensis,
Section for the History of Religions, Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, June 2010 – December 2011.

2002 – 2010, various positions including Library assistant, Student assistant and Cash processer. Detailed descriptions can be given upon request.

OTHER ACADEMIC MERITS

Editorship

Aura: Tidsskrift for akademiske studier av nyreligiositet (2020 – ongoing)

Teaching experience

Stockholm University; Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies:

- Lecture on UFO religions for the *Nya religioner och nyandlighet (New religions and new spiritualities)* course. Spring semester 2015 to spring semester 2016; spring semester 2017.
- Seminar tutor for seminar on net ethnography for the *Introduktion till religionshistorien: teori och metod I (Introduction to the history of religions: Theory & method I)* course: Autumn semester 2017 to spring semester 2018; spring semester 2019.
- Lecture on online/digital religion for the the *Introduktion till religionshistorien: teori och metod I (Introduction to the history of religions: Theory & method I)* course: Autumn semester 2018 to spring semester 2019.
- Term paper supervision for a student paper in the history of religions: Autumn semester 2018 (1 paper), spring semester 2023 (1 paper).

University of Gloucestershire; Religion, Philosophy & Ethics programme:

- Participated in online video interviews on UFO religions for the *Emergent Spiritualities* course. Also participated in online Q&A sessions with the students enrolled in the course: spring semesters 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021.
- Online lecture on UFO religions for the the *New and Non-Religious Movements* course: autumn semesters 2021, 2022 & 2023.
- Online lecture on UFO religions for the the *Emergent Spiritualities* course: spring semesters 2022, 2023 & 2024.

Södertörn University; School of Historical and Contemporary Studies:

- Lecture on UFO religions for the *Religion och medier (Religion and medias)* course: Spring semester 2019.

Conference papers presented

5. "Millen Cooke and the 'Son of the Sun.'" *Approaching Esotericism and Mysticism: Cultural Influences*. Åbo Akademi University, June 5–7, 2019.
4. "Yonah Fortner and the 'Historical Doctrine' of 'Extraterrestrialism.'" *American Academy of Religion (AAR) annual meeting*. Denver, CO; November 17–20, 2018.
3. "Their man in Sweden. The story of the Swedish contactee Sten Lindgren." *6th Israeli Conference for the Study of Contemporary Religion and Spirituality*. Tel Aviv University; April 23, 2014.
2. "Those who came from the sky." *Ends and Beginnings*, (Annual conference of the EASR. Special conference of the IAHR). Södertörn University, Stockholm; August 23–26, 2012.
1. "Vad ska Gud med ett rymdskepp till?" – ett pågående uppsatsarbete." *Nordisk konferens om forskning om nyreligiositet*, (FINYAR), Sigtunastiftelsen, Sigtuna; October 27–28, 2011.

Invited public lectures

3. *UFO:n och utomjordingar i samtida religiositet*. (UFOs and Extraterrestrials in Contemporary Religiosity). Arkivens dag: Oförklarligt och utomjordiskt, Malmö Stad-sarkiv (Malmö City Archives), November 11, 2023.
2. *UFO som kulturarv: Beträktelser från USA*. (UFO as Cultural Heritage: Observations from the USA). UFO Sweden field investigator course, Yxnerum, October 28, 2023.

1. *Från rymdbröder till ombordtagningar: UFO:n och utomjordingar i samtida religiositet.* (From Space Brothers to Abductions: UFOs and Extraterrestrials in Contemporary Religiosity). Co-organized by Religionsvetenskapliga sällskapet i Stockholm and the History of Religions section at the Department of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies, Stockholm University, November 6, 2018.

Media appearances

2. Sekter, *Spotify*, November 1, 2021.
1. Människor och tro, *Sveriges radio*, October 17, 2019.

Peer-reviewing

- 2024: *Alternative Spirituality and Religion Review* (1 article); Peter Lang International Academic Publishers (re-reviewing 3 manuscripts).
- 2023: Peter Lang International Academic Publishers (3 manuscripts [out of 6 manuscripts in a series of essays by the same author]).
- 2016: *Alternative Spirituality and Religion Review* (2 articles).
- 2014: *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* (1 article).

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Swedish: Fluent (mother tongue)
English: Fluent
French: Intermediate level proficiency
Russian: Basic level proficiency