



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 107 RELIGION, LAW AND POLITICS

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March – 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March – 6 June 2014

Mid-trimester break: 18 April – 4 May 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Where and when: Lectures: Cotton LT122
Thursday 9:00am – 10:50am

Tutorials: Times and rooms TBA. Room

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Geoff Troughton
HU 319; 463 5590
geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz

Programme administrator: Aliko Kalliabetsos
HU 318; 463 5299
aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the notice board outside HU318. Notices will also be communicated to students via announcements and email on Blackboard.

Prescription

What are the relationships between religion and politics? Is law always underpinned by religion? What drives some religious believers to conflict and violence in support of political aims, and others to peace and reconciliation? Lectures, tutorials and guest speakers enable a deeper understanding of both the New Zealand situation and some of the world's religious and political conflict areas.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Identify distinctive religious strands which have shaped the polities of NZ and other western societies
2. Critically interpret current religious or religiously charged controversies, including (but not restricted to) legal protection of religious freedom; war, peace and violence; and gender and sexual politics, from the perspective of the interrelationship of religion, law and politics.
3. Read, summarise and analyse a range of literature in the disciplines of religious studies, law and political science.

Teaching format

The course is delivered by means of one 2-hour lecture per week, and 9 tutorial sessions scheduled throughout the trimester.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit the source (library) assignment and essay;
2. Submit 4 Reading Assignments
3. Sit the class test;
4. Attend a minimum of 8 of tutorials.

Workload

For 20 points one trimester courses, 200 hours over the trimester are recommended. An average student should spend 13 hours per week for preparation, reading and writing in addition to attendance at lectures and tutorials.

Assessment

1. Sources (library) Assignment: 1000 words, due Monday 31 March, worth 20% of the final grade
[CLO 1, 3]. *Recommended average time spent on this task: 30 hours.*
2. Essay: 1500 words, due Friday 30 May, worth 30% of the final grade
[CLO 1, 2, 3]. *Recommended average time spent on this task: 50 hours.*
3. Quizzes: FIVE multi-choice quizzes based on the content of the compulsory readings, to be completed during lecture time, collectively worth 10% of the final grade
[CLO 3]. *Recommended average time spent on this task: 15 hours.*

4. Reading Assignments: FIVE short reading assignments based on the content of a compulsory reading, to be completed by 5pm on the Thursday of the relevant lecture, collectively worth 15% of the final grade. [CLO 3]. *Recommended average time spent on this task: 25 hours.*
5. Test: a class test on Thursday 5 June, worth 25% of the final grade [LO 1, 2, 3]. *Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours.*

Submission and return of work

NOTE: All assignments must be submitted in hard copy to the assignment box outside the Religious Studies programme office (HU 318). The essay must be submitted in electronic form on Blackboard, AND to the assignment box. Electronic submission via Blackboard alone is not sufficient. Marked work can be picked up from the programme office approximately two weeks after submission date.

Extensions and Penalties

The standard Religious Studies Programme penalty of 2% per 24 hours may be deducted for essays and assignments that are submitted late, without a prior arrangement for extension. After 14 days, essays may still be accepted, but students should not expect to receive comments on their work from the marker. If students require an extension, this should be arranged with Dr Troughton prior to the relevant deadline.

Essays submitted late due to medical or personal reasons must be given to the programme administrator accompanied by a certificate from a doctor or other professional.

Set texts

There is no set textbook or course reader. All readings are made available to students electronically, via Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student evaluation of this course shall be administered by CAD

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz