

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 252 POLITICAL ISLAM

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2013

Important dates

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Study period: 21–25 October 2013

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesdays, 3.10 – 5.00 PM

Location: HM 001

Tutorials: Wednesday: 12:00 – 12:50, MY 806

Instructor: Dr. Zainal Abidin Bagir

Names and contact details

Course co-ordinator: Dr. Zainal Abidin Bagir 463 5299, HU 216,

Tutors: TBA

Administrator: Aliko Kalliabetsos 463 5299, HU 318, aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Religious Studies is in the Hunter Building. The programme administrator, Aliko Kalliabetsos, is in HU 318 (ext 5299), Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the notice board outside her office. Notices will also be communicated to students via emails sent from Blackboard. Students who do not use their assigned student.vuw.ac.nz email addresses should ensure that ITS has an up-to-date email address, and that they check this address regularly. Tutorials are administered through S-Cubed. Students should enrol on line. Tutorial lists shall be posted on the Programme notice board in the third week of the trimester.

Office Hours: The main office is open Monday - Friday, 9.30 – 12:00 noon and 2:30 - 3.30 p.m. You can arrange to meet with Dr Bagir by appointment.

Prescription

This course introduces intellectual frameworks for revival, renewal and reform in the Muslim majority and Muslim minority worlds since the colonial era. Detailed case studies explore categories such as 'fundamentalism' and 'nationalism' within the political and ideological experience of states in the Middle East, Asia, Europe and elsewhere. The course offers an in-depth and comprehensive view of global and globalised Muslim movements.

Course content

Political Islam is understood to comprise a broad spectrum of Muslim political movements in many parts of the world today. One of the main objectives of this course is to show the diversity of Muslim political thoughts and practices. To do that, we will start with a simple framing which is the division of puritan and moderate Muslims—and from there look at the variations in the puritan-moderate spectrum.

This course is composed of three main elements designed to achieve that objective: everyday Muslims' views, scholars' theories, and some country studies that show the practices of Muslim political aspirations in concrete situations (in three very different Muslim-majority countries, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Indonesia).

Through these different angles the course will take up major issues that are the subject of intense debates in today's Muslim world (and beyond), such as the relation between state and religion, Muslims' responses to democracy, and the place of *shari'a* (Islamic law) in a modern state.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. have a sense of the diverse spectrum of Muslim political thoughts and practices, from the most puritan to the liberal democratic kind, and how political Islam changes according to context.
2. identify the main characteristics of the different faces of political Islam as well as selected case studies of their manifestations in different countries and organizations, so as to make informed judgment about the main trends and varieties of today's political Islam .
3. be critical of many simplifications in discussions about political Islam, especially in popular writings.
4. understand the study of religion as a critical discipline; that is, to examine the political, economic, social, historical, conceptual and cultural dimensions of religious aspirations and activities.
5. develop their reading, research and writing skills, and their critical awareness, especially in the study of religion.

The assessment of this course relates directly to the course learning objectives.

Teaching format

This course is designed as an integral combination of lectures, readings, tutorials, and assigned work. These components are complementary with one another, not redundant; and ALL components of the course are necessary for students to do well. It is thus recommended in the strongest possible terms that students do the reading, attend all lectures and tutorials, and keep up with the required work for the course. Please see Appendix A for the Lecture Schedule, the tutorial timetable and details relating to the readings and the assessment for this course.

Tutorials deal with topics which complement the lecture programme. They provide an opportunity to discuss aspects of the course in a small group and develop the ability to contribute to discussions. This is an important part of the apparatus the course uses to develop students' skills in critical thinking and communication.

Assessment

The course is internally assessed by means of two essays, seven reading assignments, and one class test, **all mandatory**, as follows:

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	7 response papers of approximately 400 words each	20%	1, 2, 3	See schedule
2	Essay one, 1,500 words	25%	1, 2, 3	23.08.2013
3	Essay two, 1,500 words	25%	1, 2, 3	04.10.2013
3	One in class test (1 hour and 50 minutes in duration)	30%	1, 2, 3	15.10.2013

- **Two 1500-word essays**, one on “puritan”, the other one on “moderate”/democratic variants of political Islam, focusing on certain scholars’ thoughts or practice in a country; each worth **25%** of the final grade.
 - **Essay 1 due Friday August 23, 2013, 5 p.m.**
 - **Essay 2 due Friday October 4, 2013, 5 p.m.**
- **7 mandatory reading assignments**; short written assignments one page maximum, (approximately 400 words each) collectively worth **20%** of the final grade

a class test lasting 1 hour 50 min in class time on Tuesday October 15, worth 30% of the final grade.

Mandatory course requirements

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

Submit both essays

Submit 7 written responses

Sit the final in-class test

Attend 80% of tutorials

Workload

Workload (recommendation of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences): For 20 point courses, a student should spend on average 12 hours per week for preparation, reading and writing in addition to attendance at lectures and tutorials. The total workload for the course, including class time should be approximately 200 hours. Submission and return of work

Submission and Return of Work

Students are to submit essays to **Blackboard** as well as putting a **hard copy** in the Religious Studies box outside HU 318, and signing and dating the essay register that is there. All essays are to have the student’s name, course number and title of essay on the front. Do not put student ID number on the essay. Students are responsible for keeping a copy of their essay until the one submitted has been returned. No responsibility will be taken for essays which are not submitted in the proper manner, and which have not been signed for in the register. Marked essays are to be collected from the Religious Studies office, HU 318.

Penalties

- 2 percent per 24 hours will be deducted for late essays.
- Essays submitted late due to medical reasons must be given to the programme administrator accompanied by a doctor's certificate.

Set texts

There is no set textbook. All readings for RELI 252 are available on Blackboard

Recommended reading

Please see appendix A for a full reading list for this course

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 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/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz