

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 212 NEW ZEALAND AND PACIFIC RELIGIONS

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

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

Lectures: Thursday 15:10 -17:00 MYLT102

Tutorials: tba

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Geoff Troughton KP14 206

geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz 463 5590

Communication of additional information

Religious Studies is at 14 Kelburn Parade. The programme administrator, Aliko Kalliabetsos, is in KP 14 203 (463 5299), aliko.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on Blackboard or on the Programme notice board.

Notices may also be communicated electronically, via email. Students who do not use their assigned @myvuw.ac.nz email addresses should ensure that ITS has an up-to-date email address, and that they check this address regularly.

Office Hours: The main office is open Monday - Friday, 9.30 – 12:00 noon and 2:30 - 3.30 pm. You can arrange to meet with Geoff Troughton by appointment, and he will also answer emails promptly.

Prescription

This course examines religious traditions in New Zealand and in the Islands of the Pacific. It focuses particularly on histories of religious change, and on questions relating to the influence of religions on the development of culture, politics, and society in the region.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1 identify major aspects of the religious history of Aotearoa and the Pacific;
- 2 analyse the role of particular people, movements, and events in the history of religions in the region;
- 3 read and analyse source materials and assess the quality of secondary materials;
- 4 develop critical thinking, reading, and academic research and presentation skills.

The course aims

1. To introduce students to the story of religions in Aotearoa and the Pacific, with particular emphasis on religions' relevance for issues of national, community and political identity.
2. To develop students' critical awareness of religions' roles in the political and cultural changes experienced in the region over the past two hundred years.
3. To engage with political and cultural issues relating to the plurality and diversity of the religions of Aotearoa and the Pacific, and develop a critical awareness of problems involved in study of such diversity.
4. To assist students to understand various different types of religious phenomena.

Teaching format

This course is delivered through a combination of lectures and tutorials. The lecture programme introduces new material that incorporates and complements the reading assignment. The lecture programme does not cover the entire course content; lectures are complementary to the students' reading and to tutorial discussions.

Tutorials are an opportunity for discussion and fuller participation in their learning experience. Students are expected to attend each tutorial. In cases of justified absence, satisfactorily written assignments (500 words per tutorial) or other alternative projects related to the material will substitute for attendance.

A website of materials related to RELI 212 is being maintained in Blackboard. You can find it by visiting <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Your user name is the one issued to you by Student Computing Services. Your password is your Student ID Number. If in doubt, please contact the Student Computing Services Help Desk, 463-6666 (extension 6666 from Victoria phones) or by email scs-help@vuw.ac.nz.

Mandatory course requirements

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

1. submit two essays
2. sit the class test
3. attend 7 out of 9 tutorials.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 7 quizzes to be held in class as per lecture schedule Recommended average time spent on this task: 25 hours	15%	1,2,4	
2 1 essay 1,200 of words (biographical assignment) Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours	20%	1,2,3,4	Wed 1 Apr 2015
3 1 essay of 2,500 words Recommended average time spent on this task: 75 hours	40%	1,2,3,4	Fri 29 May 2015
3 1 in-class test held on Thursday 4 June (duration 100 minutes) Recommended average time spent on this task: 55 hours	25%	1,2,3,4	Thurs 4 June 2015

Rationale for assessment

The **quizzes** ensure that students read and think about the required readings prior to lectures and tutorial discussion. They also allow for continuous feedback on levels of understanding and development of the analytical skills required in the essays.

Essay one (the biography assignment) allows students to consider the contribution of one significant figure in the story of religion in Aotearoa or the Pacific. Students will learn to place individual's lives and contributions in a broader context, think carefully about connections between individuals and wider processes, and reflect critically on the biographical source consulted.

Essay two allows students to research a particular topic of interest to them. Essays demonstrate students' levels of proficiency with regard to finding, understanding, and using sources. In so doing they will develop the skills of critical reading, analysis and organizing material necessary for continued study.

The class test allows students to demonstrate their grasp of the material covered in the course and their understanding of the themes addressed, and creates an opportunity to review and reflect on what they have learned in the course as a whole.

Workload

For 20-point one-trimester courses a student should, on average, spend 13 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

Essays and assignments must be placed in the locked assignment box located near the programme administrator's office, KP 14 203, and students must date and sign the essay register to indicate an essay has been submitted. **No responsibility will be taken for assignments for which there is no record.** Students should keep a copy of all their work until it is returned.

Essays **must also be submitted electronically** via the Blackboard site. Essays not submitted by email by 5 p.m. on the due date will be treated as late, and may be penalised accordingly, just as essays not received in paper copy by the due date.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

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.

Penalties

A penalty of 1% per 24 hours may be deducted for late essays and assignments.

Set texts

There is no set textbook and no Course Reader. **All weekly readings will be available on Blackboard.** A short bibliography of relevant general texts may be found in the appendix to the course outline; students are encouraged to approach Dr Troughton for suggested supplementary readings in areas specific to their interest and essay research focus.

Recommended reading

Two key recommended texts are readily available in the library and elsewhere:

Davidson, Allan K., and Peter J. Lineham, eds. *Transplanted Christianity: Documents Illustrating Aspects of New Zealand Church History*. 4th ed., Palmerston North: Massey University, 1997. [Available online at: www.massey.ac.nz/~plineham/RelhistNZ.htm].

Troughton, Geoffrey, and Hugh Morrison, eds. *The Spirit of the Past: Essays on Christianity in New Zealand History*. Wellington: Victoria University Press, 2011.

These books may also be purchased from vicbooks: www.vicbooks.co.nz.

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

This course shall be evaluated 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-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz