



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Te Kura Toirangi

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 424 Advanced Studies in Religion and Society

30 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

Last assessment item due: 19 June 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

Monday 16:00 – 19:00, KP14/ 102

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator:	Dr Joseph Bulbulia	KP 14 201	463 5043	joseph.bulbulia@me.com
Administrator:	Aliki Kalliabetsos	KP14 203	463 5299	aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Religious Studies is at 14 Kelburn Parade. The programme administrator, Aliki Kalliabetsos, is in room 203 (ext 5299). Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the Notice Board adjacent to her office.

Office Hours: The main office is open Monday – Friday, 9.30 am – 12:00 noon, and 2:30 - 3.30 pm. You can arrange to meet with the class co-ordinator by appointment.

Prescription

This course examines relationships between religions and societies through a combination of theoretical models and case studies. The latter will address the social location and functions of religious communities, and religious interactions with social institutions, in selected classical and contemporary societies. Concerns include issues of diversity, power, authority and law.

Course content

The course content includes academic books and articles, religious texts, government and other policy documents, media and other sources. Topics include: religion and state theory, histories of religious diversity, and case studies from U.S, U.K. Europe, Asia and Australia and New Zealand.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. comprehensively describe the religious system of one case study;
2. demonstrate familiarity with scholarly literature in the evolutionary study of religion and social complexity;
3. demonstrate the ability to construct a coherent, well-written, evidence-based argument with respect to one issue in evolutionary study of religion and social complexity;
4. demonstrate the ability to communicate orally the findings and significance of research pertaining to the evolutionary study of social complexity.

Teaching format

This course is delivered through regular seminars. The seminar programme may be varied from time to time. As much notice as possible will be given when changes occur and, a revised programme will be issued.

Mandatory course requirements

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

1. attend at least 80% of seminars
2. submit all stipulated pieces of assessment
3. give one oral presentation.

Workload

The total expected workload for this course is 300 hours spread evenly over the trimester.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date (2015)
1	One essay (proposal + bibliography) total about 1,000 words Recommended average time spent on this task: 30 hours	10	1,2,3	20 April
2	One case study using historical and/or ethnographic data, total about 3,000 words Recommended average time spent on this task: 90 hours	30	1,2	15 May
3	One 5,000-word essay Recommended average time spent on this task: 150 hours	50	1,2,3	19 June
3	One 20-minute in-class presentation Recommended average time spent on this task: 30 hours	10	4	either 18 May or 25 May

Submission and return of work

Work must be submitted in to the course coordinator in an MS WORD document (or similar) as an attachment by Email. Students must keep backup copies of all their work. Work is due on the dates listed above.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions will only be granted for certified medical reasons.

Penalties

Late work will receive a one-point deduction for each day the assignment is late.
The last day to submit work is 19 June 2015.

Set texts

Text will be made available as links to this outline. Please allow fifteen-thirty seconds for the reading to download.

Recommended reading

All readings are available on BB

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