



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

***ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES***

***RELIGIOUS STUDIES***

***RELI 107 RELIGION, LAW AND POLITICS***

***20 POINTS***

**TRIMESTER 1 2016**

## **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24–30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

## **Class times and locations**

Lectures: Tuesday 15:10 – 17:00 CO122

Tutorials: tba. Students should enrol in tutorials through myAllocator

## **Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Dr Geoff Troughton [geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz) KP14/206; 463 5590

Administrator: Aliko Kalliabetsos [aliko.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:aliko.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz) KP14/203 463 5299

## **Communication of additional information**

Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the notice board outside KP14/203. Notices will also be communicated to students via announcements and email on Blackboard.

## Prescription

Examines the interplay of religion, law and politics in the contemporary world. Themes include: relationships between religion and politics, religious freedom, religion and conflict. Case studies explore different religions focusing on current debates, including the role of religion in contentious legislation and in forms of political violence.

## 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. **make a credible attempt at the major essay**, in order to demonstrate achievement of CLOs 1-3;
2. **sit the final class test**, in order to demonstrate achievement of CLOs 1-3;
3. **attend at least seven of nine tutorials**, in order to a) develop critical understanding of the religious issues addressed in the course and b) receive adequate preparation for course assessments.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs *because of exceptional personal circumstances*, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## Workload

For 20-point 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

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
<b>1</b> Library Assignment: 1000 words. Recommended average time spent on this task: 30 hours	15%	1, 3	Wed 23 Mar
<b>2</b> Mid-trimester test. Recommended average time spent on this task: 20 hours	15%	1	Tue 12 Apr
<b>3</b> Essay of 1,500 words. Recommended average time spent on this task: 60 hours	30%	1,2,3	Wed 25 May
<b>4</b> Reading Assignments: 5 short reading assignments based on the content of a compulsory reading, to be completed by 5pm	15%	3	Tue 8 Mar, Tue 15 Mar,

	on the Tuesday of the relevant lecture, collectively worth 15% of the final grade. (about 350 words each) Recommended average time spent on this task: 25 hours.			Tue 19 Apr, Tue 10 May, Tue 17 May
5	One final test held in class time. Recommended average time spent on this task: 60 hours.	25%	1,2,3	Tue 31 May

## Submission and return of work

All assignments must be submitted in hard copy to the assignment box outside the Religious Studies programme office (KP 14 203).

The essay must be submitted in electronic form on Blackboard, AND also 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

### 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. If students require an extension, this should be arranged with Dr Troughton prior to the relevant deadline.

### Penalties

A penalty of 1% 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.

### 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.

### Student feedback

All student feedback from course evaluations is considered, improvements are regularly made on that basis: for example, extensive use of Blackboard for all course materials and the requirement for regular small pieces of assessment have been implemented on the basis of student feedback. Students responded positively to course content and delivery.

This course will be evaluated by CAD.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)

- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)