



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 331 Religion, Conflict and Peacemaking

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

Study period: 6–9 June 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to 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).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday 09:00 – 10:50 HU 220

Tutorials: tba

Students should enrol in tutorials through myAllocator.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Philip Fountain - philip.fountain@vuw.ac.nz KP 14 / 106, 463 5491

Administrator: Aliko Kalliabetsos - aliko.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz KP 14 / 203, 463 5299

Tutor: Bruno Shirley - bruno.shirley@vuw.ac.nz, KP14 / 103.

Communication of additional information

Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the notice board outside the Religious Studies Programme office, KP 14 / 203. Notices will also be communicated to students via announcements and email on Blackboard.

Prescription

An exploration of the role of religion in promoting conflict and terror, and of the power and potential of religion for transforming conflict and building peace. There will be a particular focus on the distinctive historical, theological, symbolic and practical resources religious communities can offer to the task of peacemaking in a violent world.

Course content

Please see Appendix A for lecture schedule and required reading.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Critically analyse contemporary discourses about religious violence and religious peacemaking
2. Develop and hone analytical skills in the comparative analysis of religion
3. Articulate nuanced arguments that draw upon and deploy empirical and theoretical knowledge about religion
4. Demonstrate critical thinking and communication skills relevant for academic research

Teaching format

This course is taught by means of one two-hour lecture per week and 9 tutorial sessions scheduled throughout the trimester. The lectures communicate historical, theoretical and doctrinal materials, while the tutorials allow students the opportunity to develop their own communication skills through critical discussion of the readings and lectures. Students are expected to read the assigned readings prior to both the lecture and tutorial. Please check Appendix A for the relevant topics and readings for each week.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% students must attend a minimum of 7 out of 9 tutorials. Tutorial attendance is necessary for demonstrating the achievement of all CLOs in the course. 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.

Workload

For 20-point 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.

Assessment

All essays should be written in clear language and should contain a coherent, structured and organised argument. Essays should conform to referencing practices as laid out in the Chicago Style for the Humanities, including a correctly formatted bibliography. A document providing guidance on referencing will be uploaded to Blackboard. All essays will be submitted to the plagiarism-detection software Turnitin.

Assessment items	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Essay 1 (2000 words) Recommended average time spent on this task: 50 hours	25%	1,2,3,4	31 March
2 Essay 2 (3000 words) Recommended average time spent on this task: 70 hours	35%	1,2,3,4	20 May
3 2 short answer in-class tests to be held as per lecture schedule (10% each) Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours	20%	1,2,3,4	21 March 18 April
4 End-of-class test Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours	20%	1,2,3,4	30 May

Submission and return of work

All essays should be submitted in electronic format on Blackboard. Marked essays shall be returned within two weeks from the date of submission and may be collected from the Religious Studies office.

Extensions and penalties

All assignments should be submitted by 5:00pm on the due date. Late assignments may be subject to a penalty of 2% per day late. Students who require an extension for legitimate reasons should apply for one as soon as practicably possible before the due date of the assessment in question. Essays submitted late due to medical reasons may be required to provide a doctor's or other appropriate certification.

Set texts

All course readings will be available on Blackboard. Additional recommendations may be offered in lectures or tutorials.

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 and improvements are regularly made on that basis. 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.

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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at 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
- 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
- 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
- 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