



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Te Kura Toirangi

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELI 210 SPECIAL TOPIC: RELIGION, AID AND DEVELOPMENT

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 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: Wednesday 09:00 – 10:50 HM 001

Tutorials: tba. Students should enrol in tutorials through myAllocator

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Philip Fountain KP14/106 463 5491 philip.fountain@vuw.ac.nz

Administrator: Alikali Kalliabetsois KP 14/203 463 5299 aliki.kalliabetsois@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Religious Studies is located at 14 Kelburn Parade. The programme administrator, Aliko Kalliabetsos, is in room 203 (463 5299), aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz. 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.

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 Philip Fountain by appointment, and he will also answer emails promptly.

Prescription

This course examines the intersections between diverse religions and practices of international aid, development and humanitarianism. Drawing particularly on historical and ethnographic research, we will rethink common assumptions about the ethics, impulses, and politics religious aid. The course focuses on Asia and the Pacific.

Course content

The course aims to teach students to think, argue and write in a critical, creative and theoretically informed manner about the intersections of religion, aid and development as a case study in the broader problem of the study of religion in general. The course uses a mixture of lectures and small-group discussions to make connections between theory and lived religious experience. The course also aims to improve students' skills in critical thinking, creative thinking and communication.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Understand the different kinds of connections that take place between religion, aid and development.
2. Critically analyse scholarly literature on religious and secular aid and development.
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

The course uses a mixture of lectures and tutorials. The lectures communicate both content and ideas, that is, historical and ethnographic materials, as well as relevant theories. The tutorials allow students the opportunity to develop their communication skills through critical discussion of the readings and lectures. It is essential that students attend lectures and tutorials, as the lecturer and tutor use these to introduce material that is not contained in the readings.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials in order to demonstrate the achievement of all CLOs in the course. This fosters for students the intended linkages between the lectures, tutorials and assigned readings, and allows students to learn cooperatively. 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 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 and workload per item | | % | CLOs | Due date |
|--|--|-----|------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Essay 1 (1,500 words) Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours | 25% | 1, 2, 3, 4 | 12 August |
| 2 | Essay 2 (2,500 words) Recommended average time spent on this task: 60 hours | 35% | 1, 2, 3, 4 | 30 September |
| 3 | 2 short answer in-class tests, 10% each (duration: 25 minutes) Recommended average time spent on this task: 10 hours per test | 20% | 1, 2, 3, 4 | 3 August 14 September |
| 4 | One End of Class test (duration: 1 hour 30 minutes) Recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours | 20% | 1, 2, 3, 4 | 12 October |

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 (KP 14 / 203). Students should keep a copy of all their essays until it is returned.

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

There is no set textbook. All readings shall be available on Blackboard via the Talis system. Please see the Lecture Programme in the Appendix to this Outline (to be distributed during the first lecture, and available on BlackBoard) 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.

Student feedback

This is the first time this course is being offered.

The 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