

Religion, Race and Social Conflict (A006819)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Van Raemdonck, An

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Franke, Lisa

LW21

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China\)](#)

crdts

offering

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject India\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Japan\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Middle East Studies\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Religion, (post)secularism, Islam, race, racialisation, (post)racism, social conflict, the far right, multiculturalism, superdiversity, conviviality

Position of the course

This specialized course offers an overview of interdisciplinary approaches to the study of religion, race and social conflict. It includes an introduction to theories at the intersection of religion/secularism, race/racialisation and socio-political conflict and aims to enable students to critically engage with current theorizing through interactive discussion of a selection of case studies.

Contents

- 1 The course offers an overview of current critical theorizing at the intersection of religion, race and social conflict. This includes the race/religion constellation historically and in contemporary times; the racialization of Muslims, Islamophobia and anti-semitism; the religious/secular binary; theoretical perspectives of postsecularism; postracism/colour-blindness and racial justice; postfeminism; theories of multiculturalism, superdiversity and conviviality.
- 2 Through thematic empirical case studies taken from a global context the course trains students' understanding of the different theories and concepts. Thematic studies include Muslim life in European postsecular societies; interreligious political dynamics in the 'Middle East'; superdiversity and conviviality in global cities; US evangelicals and the New Right; racism and African American Christianity; transnational anti-gender and 'anti-woke' movements.
- 3 Through integrated discussion sessions, students mobilize their theoretical knowledge to analyse and reflect on chosen themes or topical controversies.

Initial competences

Students are expected to build on previous knowledge of the key themes obtained through bachelor introductory courses in the interdisciplinary field of gender and diversity, anthropology, sociology, Arabic/Islamic/Middle East studies, international relations or political sciences.

Final competences

- 1 Identifying and discussing the main theoretical perspectives and approaches to study social conflicts at the intersection of race and religion.
- 2 Discussing the entanglements of race and religion in historical and contemporary contexts.
- 3 Explaining different approaches to theorizing the postsecular.
- 4 Explaining concepts of postracism, colour-blindness and racial justice.
- 5 Differentiating between and characterizing multiculturalism, superdiversity and conviviality theorizing.
- 6 Critically reflecting on theories of race, postracism, postsecularism.
- 7 Connecting relevant theories and concepts to specific related social conflicts across the globe.
- 8 Analysing topical events by selecting and integrating theory.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

This course combines lectures with interactive discussion seminars. Students will be asked to engage in classroom discussions based on the preparatory readings. Students are expected to follow current affairs. Topical events will be discussed against the course materials.

Study material

Type: Reader

Name: Online reader

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

References

Course content-related study coaching

Ufora, email

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Presentation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Calculation of the examination mark

80% oral exam

20% group presentation

Facilities for Working Students

- Presence is strongly recommended because of the discussions in class.
- It is not possible to participate in the exam separate from the preset date.
- Opportunity for feedback via email, by phone or by appointment
- At the start of the semester you can request access to recordings by email.

Recordings will be kept on Ufora.