



STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2021-2022

COURSE TITLE

**Religion in Global Politics/ La religion
dans un monde globalisé**

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT

Maria Breskaya

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

PORTIER Philippe

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Jacek Wolowiec

COURSE TYPE

Optional Specialist Course

MAJOR(S)

EPAP, EUW, EHC

ECTS CREDITS

4

SEMESTER

TEACHING
HOURSINDIVIDUAL &
GROUP STUDY TIME

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

LANGUAGE(S)

2

20

80

1

FR & EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The course aims to introduce students to the phenomenon of the “return of religion”, its actors, process and origins. The analysis will be placed under the aegis of the paradigm of second modernity or ultramodernity. Finally, after recalling the theoretical framework of ultramodernity, the course will present the various figures of repoliticisation of the religious in contemporary society.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will enable students to approach different areas. They will be able to identify three main points.

1. The models of understanding of religion in contemporary society. After recalling the theses of the founding fathers of the sociology of religion, the course will present the paradigms developed during the recent period: theory of secularization, theory of counter-secularization, theory of ultramodernity.
2. The course will also examine the regimes of belief in contemporary society. It will focus on the dual process of individualization and politicization of belief. In this context, we will see how religious groups, whether Muslims, Christians, Jews or others, organise themselves today to assert their values in the public space.
3. Lastly, we will study the models of regulation of belief in contemporary society. The aim here is to understand the models of management of religion that have been put in place in the various European states and beyond. We will also see, in this context, how the political elites make use of the religious referent today.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

None.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures and discussions

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- A 2-hour written exam with two questions on the course (40% of the final mark)
- A 2000-word paper on a topic chosen by the student, in relation to the course and with the agreement of the professor (60% of the final mark)

Students can choose to submit their final paper and exam in either English or French.

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the College (force majeure). Any communication from the campus administration in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.

Retake examinations, i.e. exams passed in the second examination session, will have the same format as those taken during the first exam session. The only exception concerns oral exams, which are replaced in the second exam session by written exams. When a student takes an examination during the second session, the final mark for the course is based solely on the result of the retake examination. No other element of evaluation which would have been taken into consideration in the calculation of the final mark during the first examination session will be considered in the second session". (art. 28 of the Specific Provisions).

COURSE CONTENTS

This course will be based on theoretical elements. It will study the current controversies on the place of religion in contemporary society. But it will also focus on an analysis of the practical behaviour of political and religious actors. In this context, it will develop the following points, taking into account several religious worlds and several countries.

- the situations of political and religious actors (defrontierization, globalization, networks)
- the ideologies of political and religious actors (liberalism, republicanism, populism)
- the strategies of political and religious actors (modes of politicization, strategies of alliances, decision-making).

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

Peter Berger (dir.), *Le réenchantement du monde*, Paris, Bayard, 2001.

Peter Beyer and Lori Beaman (ed.), *Religion, Globalization, and Culture*, London, Brill, 2007.

José Casanova, *Public Religion in the Modern World*, Chicago, CUP, 1994.

Steve Bruce, *God is dead. Secularization in the West*, Hoboken, Wiley, 2002.

Alain Dieckhoff, Philippe Portier (ed.), *Politique et religion, L'enjeu mondial*, Paris, Presses de Sciences Po, 2017.

[Vyacheslav Karpov](#), « Desecularization : A Conceptual Framework », *Journal of Church and State*, Volume 52, Issue 2, Spring 2010, 232–270.

Philippe Portier, *L'Etat et les religions en France, Une sociologie historique de la laïcité*, Rennes, Presses universitaires de Rennes, 2016.

Philippe Portier, Jean Paul Willaime, *La religion dans la France contemporaine, entre sécularisation et recomposition*, Paris, Colin, 2021.

Jörg Stoltz et al., *(Un)Believing in Modern Society. Religion, Spirituality and Religious- Secular Competition*, Londres-New York, Routledge, 2016.

