

Course description

General information		
Instructor	Hrvoje Čargonja, Assistant professor	
Course title	Anthropology of Rituals	
Study Programme	University Undergraduate Programme in Protestant theology	
Type of course	Mandatory	
Year of study	Second	
Number of credits and class hours	ECTS credits	2
	Class hours (L+E+S)	1+0+0

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1.1. Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are to introduce students to:

1. the basic cultural-anthropological views on ritual;
2. the social role of ritual and its efficacy;
3. the principal theoretical approaches to ritual within anthropology.

1.2. Prerequisite

There are no prerequisites for this course.

1.3. Learning outcomes at the Study Programme level

1. Demonstrate understanding of the correlation between theology and other humanities and social sciences.
2. Put forward substantiated arguments and propose solutions to problems related to the dialogue between Christian theology and philosophy, culture, and science.
3. Apply the acquired knowledge to evaluate the role of the Church and Christianity in the life of the humanity and society of today.
4. Assess, based on the acquired knowledge, the significance and relevance of Christianity in the interreligious context, as well as in its relationship to the society, culture, and science.
5. Make appropriate judgments in complex contexts.
6. Critically reflect on one's own work and the work of others.
7. Independently organize one's learning and performing of tasks.

1.4. Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. describe and explain the cultural-anthropological approach to the study of religion and ritual;
2. recount and discuss the basic characteristics of ritual and ritualized behavior;
3. recount and describe the basic forms of ritual;
4. explain and compare the principal theoretical approaches to the study of ritual;

5. based on ethnographic examples, explain and discuss the social functions of ritual;
6. based on examples of various religious traditions, identify and analyze various forms of ritual activity.

1.5. Course Content:

1. Introduction to the course, the resources, the requirements, and the grading structure
2. Anthropological view on culture and religion: Explaining the cultural-anthropological approach to the study of ritual
3. Overview of the definitions and basic characteristics of ritual; types of ritual and its basic typologies and conceptualizations
4. Evolutionary view on ritual and ritual behavior of animals
5. Myth and ritual
6. The nature of ritual: Mircea Eliade, sacred and profane
7. The social role of ritual: Emile Durkheim and collective effervescence
8. Van Gennep and the rites of passage
9. Victor Turner and *communitas*
10. Ritual as a performance
11. The efficacy of ritual
12. Ritual and power
13. Ritual in religious traditions
14. Final discussion

1.6. Modes of Teaching

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x lectures <input type="checkbox"/> seminars and workshops <input type="checkbox"/> exercises x remote learning <input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> homework assignments x multimedia and internet <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work <input type="checkbox"/> mentored work <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ — |
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1.7. Comments

1.8. Course Requirements

Active participation in discussions during class.

1.9. Course Assessment¹

Class attendance	0,5	Active participation in class	0,5	Term paper		Experimental work	
Written exam	1	Oral exam		Essay		Research	

¹ **IMPORTANT:** Along with every mode of Course Assessment an adequate number of ECTS credits needs to be given, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the number for the course. Empty fields can be used for additional activities.

Project	Quizzes	Written report	Practical work
Portfolio			
<i>1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam</i>			
Students' participation will be monitored during the course of the semester. Attendance is mandatory. The final exam is in written form.			
<i>1.11. Mandatory Resources</i>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) W.A. HAVILAND, <i>Kulturna antropologija</i>, Zagreb, Naklada Sklap, 2002 (select sections). 2) J. D. MOORE, <i>Uvod u antropologiju - Teorije i teoretičari kulture</i>, Zagreb, Jesenski i Turk, 2002 (select sections). 3) A. BERNARD, <i>Povijest i teorija antropologije</i>, Jesenski i Turk, Zagreb, 2011 (select sections). 4) B. STEPHENSON, <i>Ritual - A Very Short Introduction</i>, OUP, 2015 (select sections). 5) R. L. STEIN and P. L. STEIN, <i>The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft: Fourth Edition</i>, 2nd ed. Routledge, 2017 (select sections). 6) R. L. GRIMES, <i>The craft of ritual studies</i>, Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, USA, 2013 (select sections). 			
<i>1.12. Additional Resources</i>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) V. TURNER, <i>Od rituala do teatra: ozbiljnost ljudske igre</i>, Biblioteka Mixta, Zagreb: August Cesarec, 1989. 2) C. M. BELL and A. REZA, <i>Ritual: perspectives and dimensions</i>. New York: Oxford Univ Pr., 2009. 3) R. L. GRIMES, <i>Deeply into the bone: re-inventing rites of passage</i>, Life Passages. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000. 4) R. L. GRIMES (ed.), <i>Readings in Ritual Studies</i>, 1st edition, Upper Saddle River, N.J: Prentice Hall, 1995. 5) V. BELAJ, <i>Hod kroz godinu: Mitska pozadina hrvatskih narodnih običaja i vjerovanja</i>, Golden marketing, 1998. 6) A. BOŠKOVIĆ, <i>Kratak uvod u antropologiju</i>, Jesenski i Turk, Zagreb, 2010. 7) M. W. DAVIES, <i>Antropologija za početnike</i>, Jesenski i Turk, Zagreb, 2004. 8) J. CAMPBELL i B. MOYERS, <i>Moć mita: razgovor s Bill Moyersom</i>, Biblioteka Serendipity, 2001. 			
<i>1.13. Number of copies of mandatory resources relative to the number of students currently enrolled</i>			
<i>Title</i>		<i>Number of copies</i>	<i>Number of students</i>
Resources are available to students in electronic form.			
<i>1.14. Modes of quality control that ensure acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences</i>			
Discussions with students during class, and final exam.			