

## Course description

| General information               |   |       |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------|
| Instructor                        | Senad Bajramović, PhD                                     |       |
| Course title                      | Non-Abrahamic Religions                                   |       |
| Study Programme                   | University Undergraduate Programme in Protestant theology |       |
| Type of course                    | Elective  |       |
| Year of study                     | First, second, and third                                  |       |
| 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. various belief systems that fall outside of the Abrahamic tradition;
2. the content of non-Abrahamic religions;
3. the historical development of non-Abrahamic religions.

#### 1.2. *Prerequisite*

There are no prerequisites for this course.

#### 1.3. *Learning outcomes at the Study Programme level*

1. Put forward substantiated arguments and propose solutions to problems related to ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.
2. 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.
3. Identify the interconnectedness and interaction of classical antiquity and the cultures of the ancient Near East on one side, and the biblical-Christian faith on the other.
4. Present the collected information and insights in written and oral forms.

#### 1.4. *Learning Outcomes*

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

1. explore the history of particular non-Abrahamic religions;
2. identify the dogmatic structure of particular non-Abrahamic religions;
3. by means of comparison, draw conclusions about the similarities and differences between particular non-Abrahamic religions;
4. consider the relationship between particular non-Abrahamic religions and the Abrahamic tradition;
5. critically evaluate the mutual influence of non-Abrahamic and Abrahamic religions.

**1.5. Course Content:**

1. Introduction to the course and the grading structure
2. The original Chinese religious tradition and its principal expressions
3. Indian Vedic orthodoxy
4. Buddhism
5. Zoroastrianism / Mazdaism
6. Near-eastern religious tradition
7. Egyptian religions
8. Religion of ancient Greece

**1.6. Modes of Teaching**

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

**1.7. Comments**

**1.8. Course Requirements**

Active participation in class. The students are required to write a essay (3-5 standard pages). The subject of the essay needs to be approved by the instructor

**1.9. Course Assessment<sup>1</sup>**

|                  |  |                               |     |                |     |                   |  |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|--|
| Class attendance |  | Active participation in class | 1   | Term paper     | 0,5 | Experimental work |  |
| Written exam     |  | Oral exam                     | 0,5 | Essay          |     | Research          |  |
| Project          |  | Quizzes                       |     | Written report |     | Practical work    |  |
| Portfolio        |  |                               |     |                |     |                   |  |

**1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam**

Students' participation will be monitored during the course of the semester. The final exam is in oral form. In order to take the final exam, the students must hand in their essay (3-5 standard pages).

**1.11. Mandatory Resources**

<sup>1</sup> **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.

- 1) REBIĆ (ed.), *Opći religijski leksikon*, Zagreb, Leksikografski zavod Miroslav Krleža, 2002 (select entries).
- 2) J. ALLEN *et al.* (ed.), *Religije svijeta – enciklopedijski priručnik*, 3. izmijenjeno izdanje, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 1998; or J. BOWKER, *Religije svijeta*, Zagreb, Znanje, 2004.

#### 1.12. Additional Resources

- 1) M. ELSER *et al.* (ed.), *Religijski leksikon*, Zagreb, Mosta, 1999.
- 2) BUDDHA, *Tako je govorio Buda*, Beograd, Grafos, 1985.
- 3) CONFUCIUS, *Izreke*, Zagreb, Nova akropola, 2006.
- 4) LAO-TZU, *Tao-Te-King*, CID, Zagreb, 1994.
- 5) K. BERTOL, *Vedizam – zoroastrizam*, Zagreb, Biblioteka Ključ nebeski, 2010.
- 6) SATYRAJA DASA ADIHIKARI, *Dijalozi Istoka I Zapada – susret religija*, Samobor, Bhaktivedanta – Udruga za znanost i religiju, 2002.

#### 1.13. Number of copies of mandatory resources relative to the number of students currently enrolled

| <i>Title</i>  | <i>Number of copies</i> | <i>Number of students</i> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Resources are available to students in electronic form. |                         |                           |

#### 1.14. Modes of quality control that ensure acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences

Discussions with students during class, term paper, and final exam.