

Course description

General information		
Instructor	Vanja Popović, MSc	
Course title	Psychology of Religion	
Study Programme	University Undergraduate Programme in Protestant theology	
Type of course	Mandatory	
Year of study	First	
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 contributions of psychology to the study and understanding of the phenomenon of religiosity;
2. the role of psychology in the understanding of religion as a plurality of experiences, views, and modes of individual and social behavior that are related to the Supernatural.

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. Draw conclusions based on the acquired knowledge about the significance of biblical and philosophical-theological texts for specific questions and problems in theology and the life of the Church, as well as for the everyday life of the individual and society.
4. Critically assess individual segments in the relationship between the Church and the contemporary individual and society.
5. 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.

1.4. Learning Outcomes

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

1. describe the foundations of the psychological study of religiosity;
2. recount the psychological definitions of religiosity;

3. classify the psychological systems of S. Freud, C. G. Jung, and V. E. Frankl, as well as their opinions on religiosity;
4. describe the relationship between various scientific psychological approaches and the manner in which they conceptualize religiosity;
5. explain the various ways of considering spirituality within psychological systems;
6. analyze the connectedness of the variety of religious experiences with personal development and growth.

1.5. Course Content:

1. Introductory lecture: Basic premises of psychology of religion (defining the concept of religiosity, and the basic characteristics of the psychological approach to the study of religiosity)
2. The history of psychology of religion: overview of the major psychological interpretations of religiosity
3. Psychological phenomena of religiosity: prayer, mystical experiences, conversion, psychopathology, and religiosity
4. Religion in major systems of psychology I: Sigmund Freud
5. Religion in major systems of psychology II: Carl Gustav Jung
6. Religion in major systems of psychology III: Viktor Frankl
7. Religiosity and mental health: the basic views of particular authors on the relationship between religiosity and mental health.

1.6. Modes of Teaching

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lectures
<input type="checkbox"/> seminars and workshops
<input type="checkbox"/> exercises
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remote learning
<input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> homework assignments
<input type="checkbox"/> multimedia and internet
<input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work
<input type="checkbox"/> mentored work
<input type="checkbox"/> other
<hr/> <hr/> |
|---|--|

1.7. Comments

1.8. Course Requirements

Active participation in discussions during class, regular reading assignments.

1.9. Course Assessment¹

Class attendance		Active participation in class	0,8	Term paper		Experimental work	
Written exam		Oral exam	1,2	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. The final exam is in oral form.							
<i>1.11. Mandatory Resources</i>							
1) Š. Š. ĆORIĆ, <i>Psihologija Religioznosti</i> , Zagreb, 1998 (select chapters). 2) W. JAMES, <i>Raznolikosti religioznog iskustva</i> , Zagreb, 1990 (select chapters).							
<i>1.12. Additional Resources</i>							
1) M. SZENTMARTONI, <i>Psihologija duhovnog života</i> , Zagreb, 2003. 2) V. E. FRANKL, <i>Bog kojega nismo svjesni</i> , Zagreb, 2017. 3) S. FREUD, <i>Budućnost jedne iluzije</i> , Zagreb, 1986.							
<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.							