

Course description

General information		
Instructor	Zoran Grozdanov, Assistant professor	
Course title	Secularization and Christian Faith	
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 the process of secularization and its influence on the Christian faith in contemporary Europe. The course seeks to introduce students to the models of the relationship between Christian faith and secular society.

1.2. *Prerequisite*

There are no prerequisites for this course.

1.3. *Learning outcomes for the Programme the course belongs to*

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. 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.
5. Critically assess individual segments in the relationship between the Church and the contemporary individual and society.
6. Reach conclusions, based on the acquired knowledge, about the significance of Protestantism in the contexts of Christian ecumenism and interreligious dialogue, as well as about the relationship of Protestantism to society, culture, and science.
7. Reason for the importance of theology in the contemporary society, culture, and scholarship.

1.4. *Learning Outcomes*

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

1. identify the concepts of secularization, secularism, and post-secular society;

2. identify the major processes of secularization of the Christian faith in the modern and contemporary periods;
3. analyze the status of the Christian faith and Christian communities in secular societies;
4. describe and compare the major models for the role of Christian communities and religious arguments in secular and secularized societies;
5. critically evaluate the limits and possibilities of public engagement of Christians in secular societies.

1.5. Course Content:

1. Introduction to the course and its objectives
2. Defining the concepts of "secular", "secularization", and "secularism"
3. Formation of secular states – historical overview
4. Secular state and secular society
5. The influence of theology on the formation of secular societies and secular states
6. The Second Vatican Council – scope and limit of the autonomy of secular states
7. Specific discussions on the character of secular society

1.6. Modes of Teaching

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lectures | x homework assignments |
| x seminaries and workshops | x multimedia and internet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> exercises | <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> remote learning | <input type="checkbox"/> mentored work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| | _____ |
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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		Term paper		Experimental work	
Written exam		Oral exam	1	Essay	1	Research	
Project		Quizzes		Written report		Practical work	
Portfolio							

1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam

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.

The final exam is in oral form. In order to take the final exam, the students must hand in their essay.

1.11. Mandatory Resources

- 1) C. TAYLOR, *Doba sekularizacije*, Albatros Plus, Beograd, 2011 (odabrana poglavlja).
- 2) M. VOLF, *Pod istim krovom: religije u globaliziranom svijetu*, Ex libris, Rijeka, 2017.
- 3) P. SINGER, *Desekularizacija sveta: preporod religije i svetska politika*, Mediterran Publishing, Novi Sad, 2008.

1.12. Additional Resources

J. STOUT, *Democracy and Tradition*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 2004.

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, essay, and final exam.