



Detailed Course Syllabus

Academic Year		2025/2026	Semester	Summer
Study Program	University Graduate Program	Specialization / Major in	History, Sociology, Communication Sciences	Year of Study 1-2

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Name	Introduction to World religions		
Abbreviation	IZBD270	Code	278820
Status	Elective	ECTS	5
Prerequisites	None		
Total Course Workload			
Teaching Mode	Total Hours	Teaching Mode	Total Hours
Lectures	30	Seminars	
Class Time and Place	CUC according to published timetable		

II. TEACHING STAFF

Course Holder

Name and Surname		Jakov Rađa	
Academic Degree		PhD	Professional Title
			Assistant Professor
Contact	E-mail	jakov.rada@unicath.hr	Telephone
Office Hours		According to published timetable	Office

Teaching Language English

Course Description

The course offers a general insight into a phenomenon of religion, especially through studying big world religions of today, their fundamental doctrines, moral and ritual teachings and written and spiritual traditions. Students will be informed of the specificities of each religion and of their similarities and differences with Christianity. Special attention will be given to the phenomenon of sects and new religious movements with a Catholic Church's stand on interreligious dialogue.

Expected Educational Outcomes

1. Interpret key positions, terms and phenomenology of certain religions; 2. Explain inherent narratives of certain religions; 3. Assess the role of Christianity for Croatian and wider social context; 4. Elaborate the role and contribution of the Catholic Church in interreligious dialogue; 5. Adhere to ethical principles when using professional literature about religious sciences.

Textbooks and Materials

Required

„Deklaracija Nostra aetate o odnosu Crkve prema nekršćanskim religijama (28.X.1965.)“, In: DRUGI VATIKANSKI KONCIL, *Dokumenti*, Zagreb, Kršćanska

sadašnjost, 7/2008; H. P. Kemp, *Praktični vodič za svjetske religije*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2015; P. Poupard, *Religije*, Zagreb, Jesenski i Turk/Kulturni informativni centar, 2007; *Religije svijeta: enciklopedijski priručnik*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 1998; *Religije svijeta*, Zagreb, Mozaik knjiga, 2009; N. Bižaca, *Ogledi iz teologije religija*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2008; H. Bükle, *Čovjek traži Boga. Religijski pristup*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2000; N. Dogan, *Religije i spas. Izvan Crkve nema spasenja*, Đakovo, Katolički bogoslovni fakultet u Đakovu, 2013; M. Eliade, *Sveto i profano*, Zagreb, AGM, 2002; T. Ivančić, *Religija i religije: morfologija, fenomenologija i teologija religija*, Zagreb, Teovizija, 2007; M. Ježić, (ed.), *Istočne religije* (skripta za studente), Zagreb, Katedra za indologiju Filozofskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, 2001.

Supplementary

A. T. Khoury, (ed.), *Leksikon temeljnih religijskih pojmova: židovstvo, kršćanstvo, islam*, Zagreb, Prometej, 2005; H. Küng et al., *Kršćanstvo i svjetske religije. Uvod u dijalog s islamom, hinduizmom i budizmom*, Zagreb, Naprijed, 1994; *Opći religijski leksikon*, Zagreb, Leksikografski zavod Miroslav Krleža, 2002; C. Partridge (ed.), *Enciklopedija novih religija. Nove religije, sekte i alternativni duhovni pokreti*, Zagreb, Naklada Ljevak, 2005; J. Ries, *U potrazi za Bogom. Put religijske antropologije*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2016; A. N. Terrin, *Uvod u komparativni studij religija*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2006.

Examination and Grading

To Be Passed	Yes	Exclusively Continuous Assessment	No	Included in Average Grade	Yes
Prerequisites to Obtain Signature and Take Final Exam		1. Regular attendance at classes – attendance of at least 70 % of classes according to the study program. 2. Obtaining a minimum success rate of 35 % during classes within the assigned teaching activities – achieved cumulatively.			
Examination Manner		1. Teaching activities (continuous knowledge assessment, midterm exams). 2. Final exam (oral).			

Grade Scale:

insufficient (1) – 0 to 49.9 %

sufficient (2) – 50–64.9 %

good (3) – 65–79.9 %

very good (4) – 80–89.9 %

excellent (5) – 90 % and above.

Grading Manner

a) Teaching activities:

a) Midterm exam 1 – 35 % of the grade

b) Midterm exam 2 – 35 % of the grade.

b) Final exam:

a) **Final exam** – 30 % of the grade (to pass, it is necessary to solve at least 50% of the exam)

Oral exam – 30 %

Detailed Overview of Grading within ECTS

ACTIVITY TYPE	ECTS Student Workload Coefficient	GRADE PERCENTAGE (%)
Class Attendance	0.8	0
Midterm Exam	1.47	35

Midterm Exam	1.47	35
Total in Class	3.74	70
Final Exam	1.26	30
TOTAL ECTS (Classes + Final Exam)	5	100

**Midterm Exam
Dates**

Midterm Exam 1: 10th class; Midterm Exam 2: 15th class

**Final Exam
Dates**

According to published timetable

IV. WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

Lectures

Week	Topic
1.	Introductory lecture: a place and role of religions in today's world. Thematic overview of lectures and student obligations
2.	The term and the definition of religion
3.	Morphology, phenomenology and typology of religions. Main religious terms
4.	Traditional religions: religions of Africa, Australia and Oceania
5.	Far Eastern religions: Hinduism
6.	Far Eastern religions: Hinduism, Jainism and Sikhism
7.	Far Eastern religions: Buddhism
8.	Far Eastern religions: Buddhism, Confucianism
9.	Far Eastern religions: Taoism, Shintoism
10.	Midterm Exam 1 Monotheistic religions: Judaism
11.	Monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity
12.	Monotheistic religions: Islam
13.	Monotheistic religions: Islam
14.	Sects and new religious movements; Catholic Church and interreligious dialogue
15.	Midterm Exam 2