

Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2016-2017

History of Religion and Culture in Western Europe (A004031)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits	5.0	Study time	150 h	Contact hrs	40.0 h
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2016-2017

A (semester 2)	Dutch	guided self-study	5.0 h
		self-reliant study	5.0 h
		lecture	30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2016-2017

Van Bruaene, Anne-Laure	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Deploige, Jeroen	LW03	co-lecturer
Hilkens, Andy	LW03	co-lecturer
Verbruggen, Christophe	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2016-2017

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in History	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in History	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Cultural history, History of mentalities, History of Religions

Position of the course

This advanced course offers a diachronical, thematic approach of history and enlarges the chronological courses on Antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Early Modern and the Modern Times of BA1 and BA2. Starting from a special focus upon the role of religion in processes of civilisation, socialisation and cultural appropriation, the course helps students gain insight in the 'longue durée' of the West European cultural history and historical mentalities. They are explicitly confronted with interdisciplinary approaches, which they should learn to apply with critical distance in their historical research.

Contents

This course mainly focuses upon the role of religion within processes of civilisation and socialisation in the history of Western Europe. For Antiquity, the importance of religion as a factor of social cohesion will be emphasised, as this is revealed by the festival culture within the classical polytheism and by the late antique Christianisation. With regard to the Middle Ages, attention will be paid to the development from 'message' to 'institute' in Christianity, to the relationship between orthodoxy and heresy in the religious field and to the role of conversion in the development of the Christian guilt culture. For the Early Modern Period, the relationship between religion, society, politics and economics will be analysed, the focus is on processes of confessionalization in Catholicism and Calvinism. For the Modern Times, focus will be upon the revival and

the fall of the traditional religious institutes and the emergence of new interpretational systems in the 19th and 20th centuries in the West (secularisation, laicisation, protestant varieties of today's Christianity). The course will help to discover interdisciplinary relations with insights deriving from archaeology, religious sociology, cultural anthropology, cultural studies and psychology. Central are the ideas of three great thinkers from the field of the anthropology and sociology of religion and art history: Emile Durkheim, Max Weber and David Freedberg.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the courses History of the Classical Antiquity, History of the Middle Ages, Early modern History and History of the Modern and Contemporary Period or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

- 1 To be able to discover cultural historical correlations throughout history.
- 2 To be acquainted with the most important theoretical and methodological debates in today's cultural history.
- 3 To be able to integrate critically the insights from other human sciences in historical research.
- 4 To be able to write a decent cultural historical argumentation.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures
- Independent work: reading

Learning materials and price

Powerpoint presentation (Dutch, on minerva) and reader (Academia Press, Dutch, English, French)
Student's notes
Cost: 10.00 €

References

Course content-related study coaching

- Occasional support via Minerva
- Office hours of the lecturers
- Feedback after the exam

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment

Periodical (100%)

Assessment form

Written exam: open questions partly based on the independent reading.

Calculation of the examination mark

3 open questions based on the courses and the obligatory reader (3 x 4 points)

1 essay based on the courses and the obligatory reader (8 points)

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance; tasks are imposed in substitution after discussion with the lecturer
- Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- Feedback can be given during an appointment during and after office hours

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy