

PO383-30 The Politics of Religion

22/23

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Steven Kettell

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Religion is at the root of some of the most contentious and controversial issues in contemporary politics. Debates around security and violence, the role of faith schools, public policy issues such as same-sex marriage and abortion, clashes over freedom of expression, gender rights, advances in medical technologies, and tensions around multiculturalism are just some of the ways in which religion and politics have intermixed. This module explores the political context of religion through an interdisciplinary approach that draws on a variety of research agendas in fields such as political science, sociology, cognitive science, psychology and history. It examines a wide range of issues, including the nature of religious belief, the historical and social development of religion (and non-religion), debates around secularism, the rise of fundamentalism, morality, and religious violence.

Module aims

The aims of this module are as follows:

- To introduce students to the key themes and issues relating to the relationship between politics and religion in the modern world.
- To facilitate an inter-disciplinary analysis of religio-politics in theoretical, conceptual and empirical terms.
- To encourage critical thinking about the impact of religious belief on contemporary political

issues and institutions.

- To enhance student research skills through the collection and analysis of information from a wide range of sources.
- To develop student abilities to present a well made, coherent and logically consistent argument

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

tbc

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced and applied knowledge of the theoretical issues and debates surrounding the relationship between politics and religion.
- Demonstrate detailed and critical awareness of the key processes and dynamics through which religion has shaped, and continues to shape, contemporary politics and political institutions.
- Relate contemporary issues surrounding religion and politics to conceptual and theoretical frameworks of understanding.

Indicative reading list

tbc

Subject specific skills

tbc

Transferable skills

tbc

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Seminars	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	260 hours (87%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

tbc

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group C1

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Written Assignment 3000 word essay	50%		Yes (extension)
Online Examination ~Platforms - AEP	50%		No

Feedback on assessment

tbc

[Past exam papers for PO383](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 4 of UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants

- Year 3 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
- UHIA-VM14 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 3 of VM14 History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
 - Year 4 of VM14 History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UHIA-VM13 Undergraduate History and Politics (with a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- Year 4 of UPOA-M101 Undergraduate Politics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 3 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M165 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Italian
- Year 3 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods
- Year 4 of UPOA-M167 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies
- Year 4 of UPOA-M16B Undergraduate Politics and International Studies (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UPOA-ML13 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology
- Year 4 of UPOA-ML14 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M163 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and French
- Year 4 of UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
- Year 4 of UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM12 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad)

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 3 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM12 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad)