



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 34042
Name: Religion and magic in the ancient world
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1005 - Degree in History	Facultat de Geografia i Història	4	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1005 - Degree in History	Religion and magic in the ancient world	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

REQUENA JIMENEZ MIQUEL

SUMMARY

Introduction to the historical study of religion, magic, divination and ancient mythology as social, political and cultural phenomena. Analysis of features of the old cultic religion and definition of the fundamental principles on which magic is based in antiquity. Study of the evolution of religious thought throughout antiquity with special attention to the transformations of religiosity in Roman society.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Be able to comment, annotate or edit texts and documents correctly according to the critical canons of the discipline.

Be able to communicate and argue orally and in writing in one's own language using the terminology and techniques of the profession.

Be able to identify and appropriately use sources of information for historical research.

Be able to make abstractions, to analyse and to synthesise.

Be able to read, analyse and interpret archaeological records.

Be familiar with the methods and issues of the different branches of historical research: economic, social, political, cultural, gender-related, etc.

Demonstrate organisational and planning skills.

Have critical knowledge of the different historiographic perspectives in the different periods and contexts.

Have interpersonal skills.

Know and be able to use methods and techniques from other social and human sciences.

Show awareness of and respect for views deriving from other cultural or national backgrounds.

Show commitment to the principle of equal opportunities for men and women.

Show critical awareness of the relationship between current events and processes and the past.

Value and respect diversity and multiculturalism.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1.

2.

3.



- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	30,00
Other activities	15,00
Classroom practices	15,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	90,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00



Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

	Hours
CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES	
Theory classes	30,00
Classroom practices	15,00
Other activities	15,00
Total Classroom activities	60,00
NON-ATTENDING ACTIVITIES	
Study and independent work	90,00
Total Non-attending activities	90,00



TOTAL	150,00
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TEACHING METHODOLOGY

English version is not available

- The classes are developed by fostering active participation by students, and combine the theoretical and practical work.

- Complementary activities will be undertaken, both organized by the Faculty as scheduled by the teachers who teach the subject in the different groups.

- Own Writing on any aspect of religion or Greek and Roman Magic, as well as the forms of worship or burial of a particular culture or territory and its meaning..

EVALUATION

The final evaluation will be the result of the assessment of the different tests and activities carried out throughout the course:

a) A final theoretical exam consisting of questions related to the subject taught and the recommended readings.

b) Practical activities, which will be evaluated throughout the course.

c) Attendance and active participation in classes and other activities.

In summary:

-Final exam 60%

-Content assimilation tests or practical work (a maximum of 2 in total) 30%

-Complementary activities (attendance and delivery of the corresponding report) 10%

REFERENCES

- Walter Burkert, Religión griega arcaica y clásica, Madrid 2007 (Cambridge 1985)



- Jean Bayet, *La religión romana: historia política y psicológica*, Madrid, Ed. Cristiandad, 1984.
- Martin P. Nilsson, (1874-1967), *Historia de la religión griega*, Buenos Aires, EUDEBA, 1968.
- Georg Luck, *Arcana mundi. Magia y ciencias ocultas en el mundo romano*, Madrid 1995.
- E.R. Dodds (1986), *Los griegos y lo irracional*, Madrid, Alianza Editorial (= 1951).
- Erwin Rohde, (1845-1898), *Psyche. El culto de las almas y la creencia en la inmortalidad entre los griegos*, Madrid, Fondo de Cultura Económico.
- J.P. Vernant, *Los orígenes del pensamiento griego*, Paidós, 2005
- Marcel Detienne, *Los jardines de Adonis. La mitología de los aromas en Grecia*, (Paris 1974), Akal.
- Louis Gernet, (1882-), *Antropología de la Grecia antigua*, Madrid, Taurus, 1981 (= 1968).
- Louise Bruit Zaidman y Pauline Schmitt Pantel, *La religión griega en la polis de la época clásica*, Akal, Madrid, 2002 (Paris 1991).
- -Alvar, J. *Los Misterios. Religiones orientales en el Imperio Romano*, Crítica, 2001. -Delgado Delgado, José A. *Sacerdotes y Sacerdocios de la Antigüedad Clásica*, Ediciones del Orto, 2000. -Scheid, J. *La religión en Roma*, Ediciones Clásicas, 1991. -Luck, G. *Arcana Mundi. Magia y Ciencias Ocultas en el Mundo Griego y Romano*, Gredos, 1995.