

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 34984**Name:** Religion and politics in the contemporary world**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies**ECTS Credits:** 4.5**Academic year:** 2025-26**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1300 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Facultat de Dret	4	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1300 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Religion and politics in the contemporary world	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

LANDETE CASAS JOSE

SUMMARY

"*Religion and Politics in the Contemporary World*" offers students the framework for understanding and analyzing the relationship between religion and politics today. Comprehend the great contemporary religions, their links with States, the presence of religion in political thought, as well as the relations between religion and politics from different perspectives: historical and territorial, cultural (values) and behavioral and political conflict. Its objective is to facilitate the instruments to understand and analyze the relationship between politics and religion in contemporary societies, in their different facets and dimensions.

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PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

No previous requirements needed.



COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

1300 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences

Be able to relate and structure information from diverse sources and to integrate relevant ideas and knowledge in the field of political science and public administration.

Have knowledge and ability to understand essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relating to political science and public administration, and to the spectrum of other reference disciplines.

Know and be able to analyse the characteristics and guidelines for action of the main political actors (parties, trade unions, interest groups and new social movements).

Know and be able to analyse the structure and functioning of political systems and processes, their elements and their historical dimension, with special emphasis on the political systems in Spain and in the European Union.

Know and know how to analyse the patterns and trends in the behaviour of collective political actors and citizens, their democratic values and fundamental rights.

Know how to design and analyse political strategies and campaigns and to convey political messages and information and issues of public debate.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Relations between politics and religion in the world

1. The religious fact and its political relevance
2. Political-religious systems (I): historical models
 - 2.1. The ancient world
 - 2.2. Christian dualism
 - 2.3. Medieval Christianity: Cesaropapism and Hierocratism
 - 2.4. The formation of the modern state: Territorialism and regalism
 - 2.5. The liberal state
 - 2.6. The twentieth century: totalitarianism and democratic states
3. Political-religious systems (II): current models
 - 3.1. Current Foundations of State-Confessional Relations
 - 3.2. The Confessional State: Concept and Classes
 - 3.3. The Lay State: Concept and Classes

1. Judaism
 - 1.1. Remote Historical background: The Promised Land
 - 1.2. Immediate historical background



2. The contemporary religions

1. Judaism

1.1. Remote Historical background: The Promised Land 1.3. The State of Israel

2. Christianity

2.1. Early Christianity

2.2. Nestorians and Monophysites

2.3. The Catholicism

2.4. Orthodox Christianity

2.5. Protestant Christianity

3. Islam

3.1. Origin and Territorial Expansion of Islam

3.2. Islamic monism: the union of religion and politics in Islam

3.3. The branches of Islam

3.4. Jihadism

4. Other major religions

4.1. Buddhism

4.2. Hinduism

4.3. New Religious Movements

5. Pseudo-religious sects

3. Public Management of religious issue.

1. The public management of the religious factor in the Spanish Administration

1.1. The Spanish constitutional model

1.2. The fundamental right of religious freedom

1.3. Religious entities: typology and legal status

1.4. Legal implications of religious pluralism: religious assistance, teaching, marriage, conscientious objection

2. The international and intergovernmental management

2.1. The activity of international organizations

2.2. Holy See and State of the Vatican City. The diplomatic activity of the Holy See

2.3. The Islamic Conference

2.4. The international relevance of other religious denominations

4. Religion and political thought

1. Religion in classical political thought

2. The religious factor in contemporary politics: cleavages, cultural change and human development

3. Religion in citizens' values in Spain and comparative perspective

4. The influence of religious groups in the design of public policies

1. Religion as a factor of conflict

2. Religious extremisms



5. Religion as a factor of conflict, violence and peace

1. Religion as a factor of conflict
3. Women in religious behavior
4. The actions of religious leaders in the resolution of conflicts and in the achievement of peace
5. The mediation of the Holy See in international conflicts

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	45,00
Total hours	45,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	0,00
Preparation of lessons	31,00
Preparation for assessment activities	30,50
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	61,50

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The theoretical sessions will consist in oral presentation of the contents of the program by the teacher or the designated students. The practical sessions will be based on the resolution of real or factual cases proposed by the teacher, comments of texts, reading of books, analysis of data and debate of theoretical contents.

EVALUATION

The final exam will account for 70% of the total grade. The remaining 30% will be added to the grade obtained in the exam if it is approved, and will be the consequence of the accomplishment of complementary activities and works.

The possibility of using the same criteria as article 10.4 of the University's Qualification and Evaluation Regulations established for early call exams, according to which "the student will be examined in accordance with the teaching guide of the course in which he requests the advancement of the call, and by the teaching staff designated by the department responsible for the subject. For the purpose of this call, the student will be exempted from the continuous evaluation system that, if applicable, determines the



teaching guide.

REFERENCES

- Jaime Bonet Navarro, *La religión y el Mundo*, Reproexpress, Valencia 2011.
- Ronald Inglehart, *Modernización y posmodernización. El cambio cultural, económico y político en 43 sociedades*, CIS, Madrid, 1998.
- A. Pérez-Agote, y J.A. Santiago. *La situación de la religión en España a principios del siglo XXI*, CIS, Madrid 2005.
- AAVV., *Religión, Política y Derecho (Práctica Jurídica)*, Ed. Edicep, Valencia 2007
- J. Touchard, *Historia de las ideas políticas*, Tecnos, Madrid 2008.
- S. Bruce, *Politics and religion*, Polity Press, Cambridge 2003.
- J. Bauer, *Politique et religion*, Presses Universitaires de France, Paris 1999.
- R. Figuiet (dir.), *Dieux en sociétés : le religieux et le politique*, Autrement, Paris 1992.
- P. Norris, *Sacred and secular : religion and politics worldwide*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2005.
- E. O. Hanson, *Religion and politics in the international system today*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2006.
- T. G. Jelen y C. Wilcox (eds.), *Religión y política : una perspectiva comparada*, Akal, D.L., Madrid 2006.
- G. Corm, *La cuestión religiosa en el siglo XXI : geopolítica y crisis de la posmodernidad*, Taurus, Madrid 2007.
- L. Duch, *Religión y política*, Fragmenta, Barcelona 2014.