



Course Syllabus

1. Course Title:

Religions in the Contemporary Russian Culture

2. Academic Level:

Master

3. ECTS Credits:

5 ECTS

4. Semester:

2, spring semester

5. School/Department:

Institute of Philosophy and Social and Political Studies

6. Location:

116 Dneprovsky lane, Rostov-on-Don

7. Instructor:

Prof. Sergey Astapov, email: snastapov@sfedu.ru

Senior lecturer Alexander Raevsky, email: anraevskiy@sfedu.ru

8. Language of Instruction:

English

9. Course Description:

The course creates understanding of a place and role of religions in the contemporary Russian culture, knowledge about cultural phenomena in religions traditional and non-traditional for Russia, understanding of the processes of modernization, conservation and archaization in religious traditions.

10. Course Aims:

To develop knowledge about religions in the contemporary Russia and their influence upon the Russian culture

11. Specific entry requirements (if any):

No

12. Course Content:

The Russian Orthodoxy, Catholicism in Russia, the Russian Protestantism, The Ancient Oriental Churches in Russia, Islam in culture of nationalities of Russia, Buddhism among nationalities of Russia, Judaism in Russia, Native religions and neo-paganism among nationalities of Russia, Neo-Hinduistic religions in Russia, New Age as a religious sub-culture in Russia

13. Intended Learning Outcomes:

to understand the main concepts of Religious Studies; to explain characteristics of new religion in Russia; to analyze the cultural phenomena which connected with religions; to apply knowledge and understanding of the religious problems in cross-cultural dialogues to understand the content of creeds and doctrines of world and national religions; to explain necessity of tolerant relations in the Russian multi-confessional society; to apply knowledge about religions in argumentation for the personal point of view on the problems of religious extremism, fundamentalism, freedom of conscience.

14. Learning and Teaching Methods:

lecture, seminar, demonstration

15. Methods of Assessment/Final assessment information:

Essay, colloquy, test / Oral examination

16. Reading List:

Balzer, M.M. *Religion and Politics in Russia: A Reader*, Routledge, 2015
Bennett, B.P. *Religion and Language in Post-Soviet Russia*, Routledge, 2011.
Fagan, G. *Believing in Russia: Religious Policy After Communism*, Routledge, 2013.
Lewis, J.F., Travis, W.G. *Religious Traditions of the World*, Wipf & Stock Publishers, 1999.