



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

4RK465 Politiska religioner i en globaliserad värld, historiska perspektiv, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Political religions in a globalized world, historical approaches, 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Colonial and postcolonial studies, Religious Studies

### **Subject Group**

Religious Studies

### **Level of classification**

Second Level

### **Progression**

A1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2020-05-07

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2021

### **Prerequisites**

90 credits including an independent project of 15 credits in a subject in the humanities or the social sciences or the equivalent, English B/English 6, or the equivalent.

## Objectives

After completing the course the student should, with a high degree of independence, be able to:

- account concisely for the main features of secularization of the Western world and their impact on the conceptual development of politics and religion,
- account for a few secularist movements and tendencies in the colonized world,
- describe the rise of political Christianity in the centres of the world as well as in peripheral, colonized areas,
- explain the emergence of political religions in colonial and postcolonial situations and relate this process to theories of globalisation,
- discuss theories of secularization and post-secularity in relation to political religions,
- reason about topics such as religion and violence, and religion and reconciliation.

## Content

The course gives an overview of secularization as a global phenomenon, post-secularity and political religions. By presenting examples from different faiths and different times and places, the course gives an opportunity to learn about specific politicized forms of religion, e.g. political Christianity, Islamism, and Hindu nationalism. It also covers post-colonial and other theories on the role of religion in contemporary politics and demonstrates different ways to explain the seemingly novel recurrence of religion around the globe. In this context, religious alternatives within western spirituality, originating in the colonized world, is also discussed.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, discussion seminars and supervision. The language of instruction is English.

## Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The course is examined through written assignments and oral seminar presentations. Reexamination is provided in the form of a written assignment or other assignment decided by the examiner. The grade A is the highest grade and the grade E is the lowest grade for passing the course. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as failed. Assessment criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the students in a separate document. The students are informed about the assessment criteria when the course starts, at the latest. If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted exam or allow the student to conduct the exam in an alternative way.

## Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material