COURSE DETAIL

SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

Country
United Kingdom - England

Host Institution
King's College London

Program(s)
King's College London

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Sociology

UCEAP Course Number
118

UCEAP Course Suffix
N

UCEAP Official Title
SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

UCEAP Transcript Title
SOC OF RELIGION

UCEAP Quarter Units
6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

This course takes students on the path to understanding of how religious ideas, movements, and institutions shape and are shaped by individuals, groups, and societies. Students engage with ideas and theories of classical thinkers, such as Durkheim, Marx, and Weber, and with innovative and often provocative views and concepts of contemporary sociologists. Among the questions for discussion are whether religion serves as "social cement" or causes conflict; why and how it can reinforce the existing social order or encourage change; and how we can explain why people stay in conventional faiths or choose new, even exotic, religions – or maybe they are brainwashed into them? Students discuss methods and approaches that sociologists use to study religion – and why their methodology often leads them to discoveries that challenge common assumptions about certain religious beliefs, practices, and groups.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
4AAT1002

Host Institution Course Title
SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Arts and Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Theology & Religious Studies

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