COURSE DETAIL

RELIGION AND GLOBAL POLITICS
Country Japan
Host Institution International Christian University
Program(s) International Christian University
UCEAP Course Level Lower Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Religious Studies Political Science
UCEAP Course Number 11
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title RELIGION AND GLOBAL POLITICS
UCEAP Transcript Title RELIG & GLOBAL POL
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.00
UCEAP Semester Units 2.70

Course Description

This course examines the impact of religion, culture, and identity on global politics. International Relations (IR) conventionally refers to relations between sovereign states in an anarchic world. The sovereign state is assumed to be the natural political community of humankind and to command the allegiance of those subject to its rule. The culture, identity and religion of states are not conventionally considered relevant to how states interact with other states.

However, since the events of September 11, 2001 (9/11), there has been renewed interest in culture, religion, and identity in global politics. The resultant US-led ‘War on Terror’ have reinforced the importance of religion to collective identities and rekindled the specter of a ‘clash of civilizations’ (Huntington 1996) pitting a Judeo-Christian West against a resurgent Islamic civilization. Echoes of the clash of civilizations but can be found in the policies of the Israeli state under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu towards Gaza after the attacks of October 7, 2023, by Hamas and in the policies towards migrants from Muslim majority states in the US under (ex) President Donald Trump and in many European Union (EU) states. In India, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under Prime Minister Narendra Modi views Islam as a threat to India's national identity based on "Hindutva" (Hindu values). Religion has moved from the margins of global politics to its center-stage.

But did it really go away? The modern international order instituted in Westphalia in 1648 was itself an attempt to contain religious and cultural conflict in Europe. How will the increasing resurgence of the non-western world and China and India in particular transform global politics? Will the eclipse of the West lead to a 'post-western' (Shani 2008) or 'global' (Acharya 2014, Acharya and Buzan 2020) IR? And will it be 'post-secular'? (Habermas 2008, Mavelli and Petito 2012, Shani 2014)?

The course discusses these questions with reference to a series of historical and contemporary case studies in global politics. These will include Human Rights in the EU, the global "War on Terror," and Religious Nationalism in South Asia.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
GES008E

Host Institution Course Title
S1: RELIGION AND GLOBAL POLITICS

Host Institution Course Details
https://campus.icu.ac.jp/public/ehandbook/PreviewSyllabus.aspx?regno=10313&year...

Host Institution Campus
International Christian University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
General Education

Course Last Reviewed
2023-2024

Print