COURSE DETAIL

PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION
Country New Zealand
Host Institution University of Otago
Program(s) University of Otago
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Religious Studies Psychology
UCEAP Course Number 137
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION
UCEAP Transcript Title PSYCH OF RELIGION
UCEAP Quarter Units 7.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.70

Course Description

The course introduces the psychology of religion, focusing on insights from contemporary cognitive and evolutionary psychology into human religious belief and behavior. It explores questions such as: Can science explain religious belief? What do cognitive and evolutionary theories reveal about belief in God? Is religion universal or a product of human evolution? How does religious belief develop in childhood? What social functions does religion serve? The course combines research from psychology and religious studies to examine topics including the psychology of atheism, terrorism, and the effects of religion on prejudice and tolerance.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
RELS237

Host Institution Course Title
PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.otago.ac.nz/courses/papers?papercode=RELS237

Host Institution Campus
Dunedin

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

Print