COURSE DETAIL

LAW AND RELIGION
Country France
Host Institution Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)
Program(s) Sciences Po Paris
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Legal Studies
UCEAP Course Number 172
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title LAW AND RELIGION
UCEAP Transcript Title LAW & RELIGION
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

From the wearing of the abaya in schools to the dissolution of religious associations and the debate on secularism… current events provide us with numerous examples showing that the law has become the primary arena for debate on the role of religion. It is up to the law to define religion, to set its boundaries, and to determine its legitimate forms and acceptable expressions. This course provides a better understanding of this contemporary demand placed on the law and its professionals (legislators, judges, legal experts, etc.) by tracing the major stages in the establishment of religion as a legal subject. To this end, the course clarifies the interactions between law and the social sciences within the various frameworks (sociological, historical, anthropological) for understanding the relationship between law and religion; draws conclusions regarding the various legal regimes applicable to religion (in France, North America, and European case law); and examines these dynamics in action through several case studies (wearing religious symbols in school, Pastafarianism, circumcision).

Language(s) of Instruction
French

Host Institution Course Number
CDRO 25F45

Host Institution Course Title
DROIT ET RELIGION

Host Institution Course Details
https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/en/?202520/291233

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Seminar

Host Institution Department
Law

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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