

Subject card

Subject name and code	Workshop for Science of Religion Students, PG_00166894						
Field of study	Religious Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of Religious Studies -> Institute of Anthropology -> Faculty of History -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Andrzej Migda				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	15		4.0		35.0	54
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to introduce students to the complexity of research methodology in the context of religion and religiosity, with a social science perspective. Students will be introduced to fundamental issues related to the theory of conducting research in religious studies. Key issues such as generalisation, relevance and reliability of research, as well as criteria for evaluating quantitative and qualitative research will be discussed in the course. Participants will be introduced to the importance of religious studies research in relation to other sciences, as well as its specificities both in terms of subject and methodology. In addition, students will develop skills in interpreting scientific texts from the social sciences.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[RELL3_W07] Knows to an advanced degree the research methods and tools of the workshop of the religious studies scholar, including methods of analysis and interpretation of various cultural products	He/she knows to an advanced degree research methods and tools of the religious studies specialist's workshop, including methods of analysis and interpretation of various cultural products. Student has basic knowledge of the main developments and major new developments in the field of religious studies. He/she knows and understands basic research methods and tools of a religious studies specialist's workshop. He/she knows and understands basic methods of analysis and interpretation of various cultural products appropriate for the study of religion.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[RELL3_U01] Be able to correctly select sources and correctly apply research methods appropriate to the research skills of a religious studies scholar	The student independently acquires and consolidates knowledge in a structured and systematic manner using modern techniques to obtain, classify and analyse information as directed by the supervisor. Applies basic research skills in Religious Studies using the recommendations and guidance of the supervisor. Is able to use basic theoretical approaches, research paradigms and concepts specific to Religious Studies. Has the ability to argue substantively using the views of other authors and to formulate conclusions.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[RELL3_W01] Has advanced knowledge of the place and significance of the humanities in the system of sciences, their terminology, subject and methodological specificities	Knows to an advanced degree the research methods and tools of the religious studies workshop, including methods of analysis and interpretation of various cultural products.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[RELL3_U06] Has the ability to argue substantively using the views of other authors and to formulate conclusions	The student will independently acquire and consolidate knowledge in a structured and systematic manner using modern techniques to obtain, classify and analyse information, as directed by the supervisor.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[RELL3_W02] Has a structured, advanced general knowledge, including terminology, theoretical issues and methodology in the cultural and religious sciences	The student has a basic knowledge of the main developments and major new developments in religious studies. He/she knows and understands basic research methods and tools of the religious studies workshop.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[RELL3_U05] Can prepare written work in Polish and in a chosen foreign language, using professional terminology and scientific equipment correctly	Has the ability to argue substantively using the views of other authors and to formulate conclusions.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
	[RELL3_K01] Critically evaluates his/her knowledge, demonstrates a willingness to continually expand his/her knowledge and to seek expert advice if he/she has difficulty solving a problem on his/her own	The student knows the extent of his/her knowledge and skills, understands the need for continuous learning and professional development. He/she is open to new ideas and is ready to reformulate his/her position. Correctly identifies and resolves dilemmas related to the profession of religious studies. Participates in cultural life using a variety of media and its various forms.	[SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work

Subject contents	• The paradigm of the researcher's worldview neutrality, the principle of objectivity in scientific research. • Methodology of religious studies research, diversity of perspectives. Research techniques: interviews, participant observation, document analysis. • Key concepts: sacrum, profane, myth, ritual, symbol, syncretism. • Fieldwork, preparation for ethnographic research (e.g. etiquette in temples, working with local communities). • Working on a scientific text, citing religious and secular sources, using analytical tools. • Analysis of religious phenomena from the following angles: phenomenological, sociological and anthropological. • The role and functions of myth and ritual in culture. Interpretation of symbols and their contexts. • Analysis of contemporary religious movements and transformations. • The ethics of using sensitive materials (e.g. esoteric texts, rituals of closed groups).		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	No prerequisites.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	oral statement - colloquium	55.0%	60.0%
	- completion of a credit work - project or presentation	55.0%	40.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	All the literature necessary to complete the course has been edited in Polish.	
	Supplementary literature	All of the supplementary literature useful for the completion of the course has been edited in Polish.	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	• How do we define religion? Is there a universal definition? • Differences between religion, spirituality and worldview. • Anthropology of religion (e.g. rituals, symbols). • Sociology of religion (e.g. role of religion in society). • Psychology of religion (e.g. mechanisms of belief, conversions). • History of religion (e.g. evolution of belief systems). • Ethnography (participant observation in rituals). • Qualitative interviews with believers. • How do myths shape the identity of religious communities? • The significance of sacred places, objects and figures. • Links between religion and politics (theocracies, fundamentalism). • Monotheism vs. polytheism vs. non-theistic religions (e.g. Buddhism). • Religious syncretism (e.g. voodoo, santería). • Influence of religion on art, literature, architecture. • Religious conflicts. • Neo-pagan movements, New Age, atheism as a worldview attitude.		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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