PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:

The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure.

You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR

Dr Lukas Pokorny (l.pokorny@abdn.ac.uk)

King’s College, King’s Quadrangle KCF19

T: 01224 272382

Office hours upon arrangement

Lecturers

Judaism: Professor Robert Segal (r.segal@abdn.ac.uk)

Christianity: Dr Jutta Leonhardt-Balzer (j.leonhardt-balzer@abdn.ac.uk)

Islam: Dr Zohar Hadromi-Allouche (zohar@abdn.ac.uk)


**Tutors**

Class: NN

Online: Amber Shadle (amber.shadle@abdn.ac.uk)

**Discipline Administration:**

Mrs Claire Hargaden

50-52 College Bounds

Room CB001

01224 272366
divrs@abdn.ac.uk

**TIMETABLE**

1 two-hour lecture per week plus 8 one-hour tutorials:

**Lectures**

Thursday 3pm – 5pm  King’s College, KCS15

**Revision Session - Attend for Week 12**

Monday  2pm – 4pm  King’s College, KCS13

**Tutorials – MUST be registered and attend the SAME tutorial for Weeks 3 & 5-11**

Tuesday  11am – 12pm  Taylor, C28

Thursday  2pm – 3pm  Taylor, C16

Friday  9am – 10am  Taylor, C25

Friday  1pm – 2pm  Taylor, C25

Students can view their university timetable at

http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php
 COURSE DESCRIPTION  
This course develops a Religious Studies perspective on religions. Jewish, Christian and Islamic traditions will be explored in their historical, systematic, and practical/ritual dimensions.

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES  
The aim is to provide students with a basic understanding of how Religious Studies works and how it promotes the academic study of the practices and beliefs of a range of religious traditions that are relevant to contemporary western societies.  
Students will
- have learnt to distinguish a Religious-Studies perspective from other academic and non-academic perspectives
- understand religious traditions as multi-dimensional constructs
- be able to interpret the basic features of the traditions studied be able to critically read and analyse primary and secondary sources dealing with religion/s.

LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME  

Introduction (Week 1)  

Judaism (Week 2)  
Formation of the Nation and of the Religion/Judaism and Christianity  
Readings: Genesis 11.27-13.18; 15; 17; 21.1-21; 22.1-19; Isaiah 53; Gospel of Matthew 1-6; 10; 12; 16; 19; 26-28
Judaism (Week 3)
Reform Judaism/Zionism

Christianity (Week 4)
The Christian Bible
Readings: TBA

Christianity (Week 5)
History of Christianity
Readings: TBA

Christianity (Week 6)
The God of Christianity
Readings: TBA

Christianity (Week 7)
Christian Practices
Readings: TBA

Islam (Week 8)
Muhammad and the Qur’an

Islam (Week 9)

Shari’a and the 5 pillars of Islam


Islam (Week 10)

Diversion within unity: Sunnis, Shi’ites, Sufis

Islam (Week 11)

Living Islam


Revision Week (Week 12)

READINGS

Unless otherwise noted, readings will be available online on MyAberdeen. Students are required to have read the assigned readings before attending the lectures and tutorials. No secondary sources or readings are required.

RECOMMENDED FOR PURCHASE


ASSESSMENT

1st Attempt: One 2,500-word essay (40%); 1 two-hour written exam (60%).
Resit: 1 two-hour written exam (100%).

PLEASE NOTE: In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

Click to view the University Level Descriptors (ANNEX A).
Click to view the University Assessment Scale Band Descriptors (ANNEX B).
ESSAYS

Essays should be 2,500 words long, including quotations and footnotes; students should note that they will be penalised for work which is either too long or too short (10% rule). Please be careful when using internet sources and remember that, for instance, Wikipedia is not acceptable as a primary source.

LIST OF ESSAY TOPICS

Choose **ONE** of the following:

1) Are Jews a religion, a nationality, or a race? Justify your choice.
2) Why did Jews reject Jesus as their Messiah?
3) Early Christianity and the Jews. Discuss
4) Reformation: Its reasons and developments. Discuss
5) Choose one of the 5 pillars of Islam, and discuss its development as a religious institution since the emergence of Islam to the present. Refer to both continuity and change in the way that this pillar is being practiced today in comparison with the first centuries of Islam.

ASSESSMENT DEADLINES

The essay should be submitted by Friday, 20 November 2015, 3.00pm.

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Submit **one paper copy** to the **drop boxes in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds** and **one electronic copy** to **Turnitin via MyAberdeen**. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK and an identical paper copy, with the digital receipt attached, will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.
EXAMINATION

The two-hour written examination will comprise three sections. Students will choose to answer one question in each section.

RESIT INFORMATION

Resit: one two-hour written examination (100%)

Access to the resit which is provisional on:

- All submitted coursework having been submitted and graded at CAS 6 or higher.
- Student having a valid Class Certificate. Students with C7’s are not eligible for resits.

Past exam papers can be viewed at [http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/for-students/exam-papers/](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/for-students/exam-papers/).