FICHA TÉCNICA DE LA ASIGNATURA

Datos de la asignatura

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nombre completo</th>
<th>Problem of God</th>
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<tr>
<td>Código</td>
<td>E000010707</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Departamento / Área</td>
<td>Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales</td>
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Datos del profesorado

Profesor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nombre</th>
<th>Ignacio José Ramos Riera</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Departamento / Área</td>
<td>Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correo electrónico</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tachisj@comillas.edu">tachisj@comillas.edu</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Profesor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nombre</th>
<th>Jesús Sánchez Camacho</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Departamento / Área</td>
<td>Departamento de Teología Moral y Praxis de la vida Cristiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Despacho</td>
<td>Alberto Aguilera 23 [OD-319]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correo electrónico</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jscamacho@comillas.edu">jscamacho@comillas.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teléfono</td>
<td>2277</td>
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Profesor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nombre</th>
<th>Marta Medina Balguerías</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Departamento / Área</td>
<td>Departamento de Teología Dogmática y Fundamental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correo electrónico</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmedina@comillas.edu">mmedina@comillas.edu</a></td>
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DATOS ESPECÍFICOS DE LA ASIGNATURA

Contextualización de la asignatura

Competencias - Objetivos

BLOQUES TEMÁTICOS Y CONTENIDOS

METODOLOGÍA DOCENTE

Aspectos metodológicos generales de la asignatura
EVALUACIÓN Y CRITERIOS DE CALIFICACIÓN

BIBLIOGRAFÍA Y RECURSOS
SUBJECT SPECIFICATION SHEET

Course Details

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester/Length</td>
<td>1st – Sept. to Dec.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timetable/Schedule</td>
<td>Monday/Lunes 14:30-17:20 &amp; Friday/Viernes 12:40-14:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors/Lecturers</td>
<td>Ignacio Ramos Riera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Details of the Professor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ignacio Ramos Riera</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>IR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>321-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tachisj@comillas.edu">tachisj@comillas.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>Appointment through e-mail</td>
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Subject Contextualization

Course Aims and Outcomes

General personal development.
The course takes a critical look at philosophical endeavors in the quest for God as well as at religious dimensions and different social realities related to this question. It fosters students’ ability to analyze different social and religious realities. It promotes coexistence between people of different religions and social and cultural traditions. It strengthens our capacity for dialogue and our knowledge of the different religious traditions of the world today.

Prerequisites

Medium-high level of English
Rigorous standards of academic honesty will be applied

CONTENTS AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Contents – Topics to be covered

Theme 1: Basic questions of existence

Topic 1: The quest for God linked to the quest for Reality and to the quest for Human life

1.1 Alternative ways of thinking the relation God-World-Self
1.2 Origin and meaning: the mysteries of existence
1.3 The Dawn of man
1.4 The Problem of Evil

Topic 2: Basic phenomenological approach to concepts related to God
2.1 Concept of symbol
2.2 Concept of life
2.3 Concept of science, religion, humanism, esoterism
2.4 Quest for transcendence: Social dimension in the need for transcendence; Atheism 2.0 and religious mindset
2.5 Different ways of thinking the After-life

Theme 2: Unity and Plurality of Religions

Topic 1: Foundations of the religious phenomenon
1.1 Approaches to the study of Religion
The positive study of religious phenomena: Criteria to understand religious diversity
1.2 Religion and its current context
The secularization of modern society: multiple modernities

Topic 2: Plurality of Religion
2.1 The diversity of religions. General typology. Ancient religious mentality. Primitive religiosity
2.2 Hinduism
   2.2.1 Historical Evolution: from Pre-Vedic and Vedic India to contemporary Hinduism
   2.2.2 Hindu Worldview: the notion of Karma, structuring of society, the problem of evil
2.3 Buddhism
   2.3.1 Siddhartha Gautama: The Buddha
   2.3.2 Four Noble Truths. Enlightenment
   2.3.3 Features of Buddhism: lifestyle, meditation, different types of Buddhism
2.4 Judaism
   2.4.1 Most important historical moments
   2.4.2 Types of Judaism and their meaning
   2.4.3 Jewish Worldview
2.5 Christianity
   2.5.1 Introduction to Sacred Scripture Scripture as a textual record of salvation history; the concept of revelation; the biblical canon; literary genres; Bible interpretation.
   2.5.2 Jesus Christ: Jesus Christ, the central hierophany of Christianity; historical research on Jesus; the historical Jesus and the Christ of faith; Jesus’ message: the Kingdom of God, parables and miracles; the death and resurrection of Jesus.
   2.5.3 Open questions: Ecumenism, liturgy, women in the church and authority in the church community
2.6 Islam
   2.6.1 Muhammad
   2.6.2 Koranic religion
   2.6.3 Society and anthropology
2.7 Daoism

TEACHING METHODS

General Teaching/Learning Methods of the Subject
“La asignatura se va a impartir en el modo bimodal, que combina las actividades síncronas y asíncronas. En el aula se mantendrán las distancias sociales y se seguirán las normas sanitarias indicadas por las autoridades pertinentes”.
“This course will combine synchronous and asynchronous learning. Social distancing will be kept in the classroom, as well as all health and safety measures indicated by the relevant authorities”

In Class Learning Techniques: Activities
Professor explanations: Lectures will provide the theoretical explanations and guidance needed in order to study each topic. In these classes, the teacher will only focus on the most important or complicated areas. Following the teacher’s guidelines, students shall complete the explanations. Students must have reviewed the material before class. To ensure that the student meets this requirement, the teacher may set short exercises before presenting the material, or after the class to check that students are following and understanding the content. The teacher is not required to give prior notice to students of this test.

Exposition of the students about their research

Seminarwise classes to share analysis and conclusions from the readings

Visits to "religious sites"

Role-playing class

The lectures will involve the use of computer-based media (PowerPoint, Word and Excel documents), electronic media (DVDs), the whiteboard and any other methods deemed appropriate by the teacher.

### Independent Learning Techniques: Activities

**Readings**

Preparation of exposition

Team work based on the preparation and summary of a topic proposed by the teacher.

Finding information in communication media and analyzing it based on the knowledge gained from this course

Tutorial sessions

Visits and Interviews

Study of the theoretical content of the module

Watching documentaries and/or movies related to the contents of the module

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<table>
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<th>HORAS PRESENCIALES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Theory Classes</td>
<td>Practical Classes</td>
<td>Academically Guided Activities</td>
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<td>32h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-study of Theoretical Content</td>
<td>Self-study of Practical Content</td>
<td>Group Work Exercises</td>
<td>Revision</td>
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<td>20h.</td>
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**ECTS CREDITS** 6
ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation and contributions</td>
<td>This will be accomplished through class participation and other eventual simple research tasks</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The proved thorough reading of the assigned reading materials does matter</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>Qualitative &amp; Multiple choice</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>Class presentation: The students will be asked to make a personal presentation based on a research of their own</td>
<td>Formal aspects regarding correctness in the drafting of a presentation, PPT, etc. Depth of analysis and creativity. Adequate substantiation of contents.</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Compulsory Bibliography

CORDOVILLA, A., Cristianismo y hecho religioso, Comillas, Madrid 2013
CASANOVA, J., "Rethinking Secularization: A Global Comparative Perspective", The Hedgehog Review, Spring & Summer 2006, 7-22
FRANKL, V., Man’s search for Meaning, Boston 1992
JASPERS, K., The Origin and Goal of History, Oxford 1953
## Complementary Bibliography


JOHSON, I., "Two Sides of a Mountain", *Journal of Daoist Studies* 5, 2012, 89-116


### Other resources

- [www.sacred-texts.com](http://www.sacred-texts.com)
- [www.buddhanet.net](http://www.buddhanet.net)
- [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)
- [www.religion-online.org](http://www.religion-online.org)
- [www.islamOnline.net/english](http://www.islamOnline.net/english)
- [www.webislam](http://www.webislam)
- [www.bharatadesam.com](http://www.bharatadesam.com)
- [www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com)
- [www.jtsa.edu](http://www.jtsa.edu)
- [www.zubiri.org](http://www.zubiri.org)
- [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

Documentary of the Corean TV on "The Ancient Tea Horse Road".