



FICHA TÉCNICA DE LA ASIGNATURA

Datos de la asignatura	
Nombre completo	Problem of God
Código	E000010707
Créditos	6,0 ECTS
Carácter	Optativa
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales

Datos del profesorado	
Profesor	
Nombre	Ignacio José Ramos Riera
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales
Correo electrónico	tachisj@comillas.edu
Profesor	
Nombre	Jesús Sánchez Camacho
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Teología Moral y Praxis de la vida Cristiana
Despacho	Alberto Aguilera 23 [OD-319]
Correo electrónico	jscamacho@comillas.edu
Teléfono	2277
Profesor	
Nombre	Marta Medina Balguerías
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Teología Dogmática y Fundamental
Correo electrónico	mmedina@comillas.edu

DATOS ESPECÍFICOS DE LA ASIGNATURA

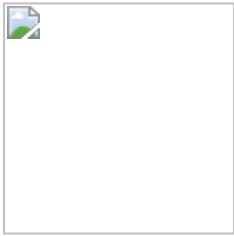
Contextualización de la asignatura

Competencias - Objetivos

BLOQUES TEMÁTICOS Y CONTENIDOS

METODOLOGÍA DOCENTE

Aspectos metodológicos generales de la asignatura



**GUÍA DOCENTE
2020 - 2021**

EVALUACIÓN Y CRITERIOS DE CALIFICACIÓN

BIBLIOGRAFÍA Y RECURSOS

SUBJECT SPECIFICATION SHEET

Course Details	
Name	The Problem of God
Semester/Length	1st – Sept. to Dec.
ECTS Credits	6
Department	International Relations (IR)
Timetable/Schedule	Monday/Lunes 14:30-17:20 & Friday/Viernes 12:40-14:30
Professors/Lecturers	Ignacio Ramos Riera

Details of the Professor	
Name	Ignacio Ramos Riera
Department	IR
Office	321-B
Email	tachisj@comillas.edu
Telephone	
Office Hours	Appointment through e-mail

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Subject Contextulization
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

SUMMARY/DIVISION OF STUDENT WORK HOURS			
HORAS PRESENCIALES			
Theory Classes	Practical Classes	Academically Guided Activities	Assessments
32h.	16h.	8h.	4h.
HORAS NO PRESENCIALES			
Self-study of Theoretical Content	Self-study of Practical Content	Group Work Exercises	Revision
20h.	20h.	10h.	10h.
ECTS CREDITS			6

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERION

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Complusory Bibliography
<p>BARSALOU, L.; BARBEY, A.; SIMMONS, W. K.; SANTOS, A., "Embodiment in Religious Knowledge", <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> 5:1-2, 2005, 14-57.</p> <p>BERING, J., "Intuitive Conceptions of Dead Agents' Minds: The Natural Foundations of Afterlife Beliefs as Phenomenological Boundary", <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> 2:4, 2002, 263-308.</p> <p>CORDOVILLA, A., <i>Cristianismo y hecho religioso</i>, Comillas, Madrid 2013</p> <p>CASANOVA, J., "Rethinking Secularization: A Global Comparative Perspective", <i>The Hedgehog Review</i>, Spring & Summer 2006, 7-22</p> <p>FESSLER, D.; NAVARRETE, C., "Meat is Good to Taboo", <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> 3:1, 2003, 1-40.</p> <p>FRANKL, V., <i>Man's search for Meaning</i>, Boston 1992</p> <p>NICOLS, S., "Folk Intuitions on Free Will", <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> 6:1-2, 2006, 57-86.</p> <p>WIESEL, E., <i>The Night</i>, New York 2006</p> <p>JASPERS, K., <i>The Origin and Goal of History</i>, Oxford 1953</p> <p>STICH, S., "Is Morality an Elegant Machine or a Kludge?", <i>Journal of Cognition and Culture</i> 6:1-2, 2006, 181-190.</p>

Complementary Bibliography

MISHI SARAN, *Chasing the Monk's Shadow. A Journey in the Footsteps of Xuanzang*, New Delhi 2005.

RODRÍGUEZ ALISAL, M.; ACKERMAN, P.; MARTÍNEZ, D., (eds.) *Pilgrimages and spiritual quests in Japan*, London & NY 2007.

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

SCHRIRE, D., "The Camino de Santiago: The Interplay of European Héritage and New Traditions", *Ethnologia Europaea* 36, No. 2, 2006, 69-86

GONZÁLEZ, L.; SANTOS, X. M., "Tourists and pilgrims on their way to Santiago. Motives, Caminos and final destinations", *Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change* 13, 2015, 149-164

KIM, B. et al, "The sacred and the profane: Identifying pilgrim traveler value orientations using means-end theory", *Tourism management* 56, 2016, 142-155

JOHNSON, E. A., *Consider Jesus*, Crossroad, New York 2005

□□

BERGER, P. L., *A rumor of Angels*, Anchor Books, New York 1970

□□

LYNCH, G., *The New Spirituality*, I.B. Tauris, London 2007

Other resources

www.sacred-texts.com

www.buddhanet.net

www.vatican.va

www.religion-online.org

www.islamOnline.net/english

www.webislam

www.bharatadesam.com

www.haaretz.com

www.jtsa.edu

www.zubiri.org

www.churchofengland.org

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