Course number	U-LAS00 10025 LE34		
Course title (and course title in English)	Theories of Religion in the Social Sciences-E2 Theories of Religion in the Social Sciences-E2	Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation	Center for Southeast Asian Studies Associate Professor,Julius Bautista

Group	Humanities and Social Sciences	Field(Classification)	Philosophy(Foundations)

Language of instruction	English	Old group	Group A	Number of credits	2

Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Lecture (Face-to-face course)	Year/semesters	2024・First semester

Days and periods	Tue.4	Target year	Mainly 1st & 2nd year students	Eligible students	For liberal arts students

[Overview and purpose of the course]

The course offers a basic foundation for the study of religion by introducing a number of different perspectives from the Sciences and Humanities. Religions are conceived of as part of the history of ideas that shaped the major intellectual traditions such as science, politics, cultural and social studies. The course will cultivate two learning areas: (1) a basic understanding of the approaches and methodologies that have been used in the study of religious phenomena, and (2) a critical discussion of the various religious, moral and ethical issues that influence contemporary ideas and discoveries.

[Course objectives]

At the end of this course, students will be able to (1) describe how some of the world’s major thinkers and intellectuals have engaged with the topic of religion over the past two centuries. From this intellectual platform, students will be equipped to (2) describe how the concept of religion itself has evolved in ways that is relevant to the various social, cultural and environmental conditions in which it can be observed.

[Course schedule and contents)]

Week 1 Introduction and Course Queries
Week 2 Religion as an Academic Field of Study
Week 3 Religion and the formation of Social Sciences
Week 4 Anthropological Approaches to Religion
Week 5 Religion and the Sociological Imagination
Week 6 Religion as a Psychological Problem
Week 7 Religion and the formation of Critical Politics
Week 8 Recap Lecture/Midterm
Week 9 Materialist Approaches to Religion
Week 10 Interpretive Approaches to Religious Experience
Week 11 Religion and the Scientific Method
Week 12 Religion and the Secular
Week 13 Conclusion and Recap
Week 14 Reading Week
Week 15 Examination
Week 16 Feedback Week

Continue to Theories of Religion in the Social Sciences-E2(2)↓↓↓

Theories of Religion in the Social Sciences-E2(2)

[Course requirements]

None

[Evaluation methods and policy]

Students will be evaluated according to three main criteria:

(1) Class attendance and participation in in-class and online discussion (30%)
(2) A written essay of up to 3000 words (35%)
(3) At least two structured group discussions (35%)

[Textbooks]

Kessler, Gary 『Fifty Key Thinkers on Religion』 （Routlege） ISBN:415492610

[References, etc.]

（References, etc.）

Introduced during class

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

No prior knowledge of religion is required. Students should be able to participate in discussions with their classmates in English. This may be face-to-face small group discussion or online. Students may also be asked to make short presentations in English based on the class topics.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Consultation is by appointment via email to bautista@cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp