

## **Religion and Politics: Islam, Secularism, Global Movements Lent 2023**

### **Course organiser**

Dr Iza Hussin (ih298@cam.ac.uk)

**Time and Location:** Thursday 11 am -1 pm, starting 19 January 2023 in ARB 119.

### **Course Outline**

This 7 week session will be organised around three major themes in the study of religion and politics: Islam and Politics, Secular/ism, Global Movements. With readings drawn from recent published work in the field, it applies comparative political analysis to key theoretical, historical, methodological, and policy issues in religion and politics research: How do modern states define, order, and reproduce religion? How does mobility, and mobilisation, matter for research and policy on religion and politics? Is Islam an exception in the study of religion and politics?

### **Teaching**

Students are expected to participate actively in the seminar discussions, including taking leadership of at least one critical discussion of the readings.

NB: While this course engages some of the themes and readings introduced in Michaelmas term (Larsson), it serves as a stand alone session.

### **Sessions**

*Readings are subject to modification, please check online course guide for the definitive version.*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>
19 January	Debating the secular
26 January	Religion and the State I: Empire
2 February	Religion and the State II: Law
9 February	Religion and Global Movements I: Capitalism
16 February	Religion and Global Movements II: Terror
23 February	Islamic States
2 March	Debating religion and politics

### **Assessment**

Students are expected to write one 3,000-word essay that explores a question of relevance to the core themes and topics of the course. Questions will be set by the seminar leader and released in January, on a date to be confirmed by the MPhil Director. Please ensure that essays are appropriately formatted, citations are consistent, and bibliography attached; it is the student's responsibility to familiarise themselves with the University's guidelines on academic honesty and plagiarism. The essay is due on **Friday 17 March 2023 by 5 pm**. The essay is worth 100% of the final grade.

### **Readings**

Essential readings will form the main basis for discussion in the seminars. Recommended readings are provided as a guide for students who wish to explore topics in further depth. The SPS/Seeley library will have most of the readings assigned for the seminars; others will be

available at the UL and the library of the Centre of South Asian Studies, which is located in the Alison Richard Building. Many articles and book chapters can be accessed electronically through the University Library's electronic resources.

### **Debating the secular**

#### Essential

- Casanova, J. 1994. *Public Religions in the Modern World*. University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1, 2, 8.
- Asad, Talal. 2003. *Formations of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modernity*. Stanford University Press. Introduction.
- David Scott and Charles Hirschkind, eds. 2006. *Powers of the Secular Modern*. Stanford. Chapters 1, 2, 3.
- Mahmood, S. 2006. "Secularism, Hermeneutics, and Empire: The Politics of Islamic Reformation." *Public Culture* 2006 18(2): 323-347.
- Hurd, E. *The Politics of Secularism in International Relations*. Princeton, 2008. 1-64, Conclusion.

#### Recommended

- Künkler, M., J. Madeley, and S. Shankar. 2018. *A Secular Age Beyond the West: Religion, Law, and the State in Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa*. Cambridge University Press.
- Daniel Philpott and Timothy Samuel Shah, "In Defense of Religious Freedom: New Critics of a Beleaguered Human Right," *Journal of Law and Religion*, 31:3 (2017), 380-395. Asad, Talal. 2012. "Thinking about Religion, Belief, and Politics," in *The Cambridge Companion to Religious Studies*, Robert Orsi ed.
- Talal Asad and Abdullahi an-Naim in conversation:  
<https://tif.ssrc.org/2009/11/09/religion-law-and-human-rights/>
- Bowen, John R. 2011. *Can Islam Be French? Pluralism and Pragmatism in a Secularist State*.
- Taylor, C. 2010. 'The Meaning of Secularism', *The Hedgehog Review*, fall, [http://www.iasc-culture.org/THR/archives/Fall2010/Taylor\\_lo.pdf](http://www.iasc-culture.org/THR/archives/Fall2010/Taylor_lo.pdf)
- Taylor, C. 2007. *A Secular Age*. Belknap Press.
- Shakman-Hurd, E. 2004. 'The Political Authority of Secularism in International Relations', *European Journal of International Relations*, vol 10, no. 2
- Norris, P. and Inglehart, R., *Sacred and Secular: Religion and Politics Worldwide*, Cambridge University Press 2004. Part I, Chapters 6, 10.
- Morris, J. (2003), 'The Strange Death of Christian Britain: Another Look at the Secularisation Debate', *The Historic Journal*, 46: 963–76.
- Asad, Talal. 1993. *Genealogies of Religion: Discipline and Reasons of Power in Christianity and Islam*.

### **Religion and the State I: Empire**

### Essential

- Hobsbawm, Eric and Terence Ranger. 1983. *The Invention of Tradition*. Cambridge University Press (2012 edition). Chapters 1, 4, 5. Said, Edward. 2003. *Orientalism*. Penguin.
- Engseng Ho, "Empire through Diasporic Eyes: A View from the Other Boat," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 46:2 (2004), 210-246.

### Recommended

- Iza Hussin, *The Politics of Islamic Law: Local Elites, Colonial Authority, and the Making of the Muslim State*. Chicago 2016.
- DuBois, Thomas David, ed. *Casting Faiths: Imperialism and the Transformation of Religion in East and Southeast Asia*. Palgrave Macmillan 2009.
- Kolsky, Elizabeth. 2005. "Codification and the Rule of Colonial Difference." *Law and History Review* 23:3, pp 681-683.
- Cannadine, David. 2002. *Ornamentalism: How the British Saw Their Empire*. Penguin.
- Cohn, Bernard. 1996. *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge*. Princeton University Press.
- Said, Edward. 1993. *Culture and Imperialism*. Knopf.
- Huntington, S. "Clash of Civilisations?" *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993. Available online at: <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/1993-06-01/clash-civilizations>
- Rafael, Vicente. 1992. *Contracting Colonialism: Translation and Christian Conversion in Tagalog Society under Early Spanish Rule*. Duke University Press.

## **Religion and the State II: Law**

### Essential

- Comaroff, John. "Reflections on the Rise of Legal Theology: Law and Religion in the Twenty-First Century," *Social Analysis*, Spring 2009, Vol. 53 Issue 1, 193-216. Rajah, Jothie. 2013. "Policing Religion," in *Authoritarian Rule of Law: Legislation, Discourse and Legitimacy in Singapore*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Moustafa, Tamir. 2013. "Liberal Rights versus Islamic Law? The Construction of a Binary in Malaysian Politics." *Law & Society Review*, vol. 47, pp 771-802.
- Menchik, Jeremy. 2014. "Productive Intolerance: Godly Nationalism in Indonesia," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 56(3):591-621.
- Case: *Titular Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur v Menteri Dalam Negeri*, 31 December 2009.

### Recommended

- Bowen, J. 2016. *On British Islam: Religion, Law, and Everyday Practice in Shari'a Councils*, Princeton University Press.
- Feener, Michael. 2013. *Shari'a and Social Engineering: The Implementation of Islamic Law in Contemporary Aceh, Indonesia*. Oxford University Press.
- Crouch, Melissa. 2012. "Law and Religion in Indonesia: The Constitutional Court and the Blasphemy Law," 7(1) *Asian Journal of Comparative Law*.
- Hefner, Robert W. 2011. *Shari'a Politics: Islamic Law and Society in the Modern World*. Indiana University Press.
- Bowen, J. 2011. *Can Islam Be French? Pluralism and Pragmatism in a Secularist State*, Princeton University Press.

- Laborde, Cécile. 2008. *Critical Republicanism: The Hijab Controversy and Political Philosophy*. Oxford U.P.
- Loos, Tamara. 2008. "A History of Sex and the State in Southeast Asia: Class, Intimacy and Invisibility." *Citizenship Studies* 12, 1.
- Thio, Li-Ann, 2005. "Control, Co-Optation and Co-Operation: Managing Religious Harmony in Singapore's Multi-Ethnic, Quasi-Secular State," *Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly*, 197-220.
- Roy, O. 2004. *Globalised Islam: The Search for a new Ummah*, London: Hurst (alternatively published in USA with Columbia UP)
- Bowen, John. 2003. *Islam, Law, and Equality in Indonesia: An Anthropology of Public Reasoning*. Cambridge University Press.
- Peletz, Michael G. 2002. *Islamic Modern: Religious Courts and Cultural Politics in Malaysia*. Princeton University Press.
- Casanova, José 1994 *Public Religions*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

## **Religion and Global Movements I: Capitalism**

### Essential

- Rudnyckij, Daromir. 2010. *Spiritual Economies: Islam, Globalization, and the Afterlife of Development*. Cornell University Press.
- Housterey, James B. 2015. *Rebranding Islam: Piety, Prosperity, and a Self-Help Guru*. Stanford University Press.
- Fischer, Johan. 2011. *The Halal Frontier: Muslim Consumers in a Globalized Market*. Palgrave.

### Recommended

- Beng Huat, Chua. 2003. *Life is Not Complete without Shopping*. National University of Singapore Press.
- Rodan, Garry and Richard Robison. 2006. *Political Economy of South-East Asia: Markets, Power and Contestation*. Oxford University Press.

## **Religion and Global Movements II: 'Terror'**

### Essential

- Kinnvall, Catarina. 2004. "Globalization and religious nationalism: Self, identity, and the search for ontological security," *Political Psychology* 25:5 (2004): 741-767.
- Darryl Li, "Jihad in a World of Sovereigns: Law, Violence, and Islam in the Bosnia Crisis," *Law & Social Inquiry* 41:2 (2016): 371-402. Alireza Doostdar, "How Not To Understand ISIS," University of Chicago 2014.  
<https://divinity.uchicago.edu/sightings/how-not-understand-isis-alireza-doostdar>
- Hussin, Iza. "'The New Global Politics of Religion': Religious Harmony, Public Order, and Securitisation in the post-colony," 4:1 (2018), *Journal of Religious and Political Practice*, 93-106.

### Recommended

- Cemil Aydin, *The Idea of the Muslim World: A Global Intellectual History*. Harvard 2017.

- Cavanaugh, W. 2014. 'Religious Violence as Modern Myth', *Political theology*, 15: 6, November, pp.486–502
- Hickman, M, Thomas, L, H. Nickels, S. Silvestri 2012. "Social Cohesion and the Notion of 'Suspect Communities'", *Critical Terrorism Studies*, 5: 1
- Gunning, J. and Jackson, R. 2011. "What's so 'religious' about 'religious terrorism'?", *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, vol.4, no.3
- Juergensmeyer, Mark. 2001 (or more recent edition). *Terror in the Mind of God: The Global Rise of Religious Violence*. University of California Press

## **Islamic States**

### Essential

- Doostdar, A. 2018. *The Iranian Metaphysicals: Explorations in Science, Islam, and the Uncanny*. Princeton University Press.
- Peletz, M. 2020. *Sharia Transformations: Cultural Politics and the Rebranding of an Islamic Judiciary*. University of California Press.

### Recommended

- Messick, B. 2018. *Shari'a Scripts: A Historical Anthropology*. Columbia University Press.

## **Debating religion and politics**

### Essential

- Hallaq, W. 2014. *The Impossible State: Islam, Politics, and Modernity's Moral Predicament*. Columbia University Press.
- Laborde, C. 2017. *Liberalism's Religion*. Harvard University Press.

*Additional readings tba*