

Syllabus of the Subject

Subject:	History of religions
Study program:	Islamic Theology
Number of ECTS credits:	5 ECTS
Level and type of subject:	Compulsory
Code of the subject:	404
Fund of classes:	2+1
Academic year:	2026/2027
Semester:	VII
Teacher:	Prof. ass. Dr. Abdulkader Durguti, e-mail: abdulkaderdurguti@gmail.com

A brief content of the course

Designing of the subject of History of Religion as a contemporary and important science provides knowledge for mutual cooperation between different religions and faiths of the contemporary world to advance further the culture and human civilisation. Related to this science, the American lawyer Thomas Clark, in 1963, had stated before the court that: “it can be freely said that one’s education will not be full without studying the comparison of religions or history of religions”. Therefore, some contemporary scholars define the history of religions rightly as a comparative history of religions, considering that it is not simply a historical study, but at the same time is also a comparative study. Having in consideration that the religion has coexisted with us along the history, by answering most complicated questions that a human being can have made, then undoubtedly we can say that as many times we return and seek human conscience, we see that it is closely interrelated with the religion.

Aims and expected learning outcome:

1. Knowledge for setting up bases of history of religion by the Muslim scientists and those from the West in 19th century.
2. Knowledge on the most spread concepts of religion such as: monotheism, pantheism, dualism, polytheism, atheism etc.
3. Development of knowledge for the religions of antique peoples, Egypt, Antique Persia, India etc.
4. Acquisition of knowledge on prehistoric religions in Middle Asia - religions of Ancient Mesopotamia.

5. Acquisition of knowledge on religions in Old Anadol.
6. Knowledge on old religions in Arabia – North, South and Middle Arabia.
7. Development of knowledge for old religions of Europe – Greeks, Romans, Tetons, Celts, Americans etc.

Methodology of teaching:

Teaching shall be carried out in form of lecture classes, encouraging students to interactive discussions etc ...

Content of the subject:

First week: Importance of the religion - need of believing in religion.

Bibliography: Dr. Zija Abdullahu, Studim krahasimtar i feve, Prishtinë, 2010, pg. 19-30.

Second week: Contribution of Muslim and western scientists in studying the religion.

Bibliography: -Kerin M. Schultz and Paul Harvey, “Everywhere and Nowhere: Recent Trends in American Religious and Historiography”, Journal of the American Academy of Religion, 78 (march), p.62, 129.

– Zija Abdullahu, Studim krahasimtar i feve, Prishtinë, 2010 pg. 33-40.

Third week: Prehistoric religions in Middle Asia.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010. pg. 39-50.

Fourth week: Religion of Old Mesopotamia - Sumer, Babylonians, Assyrian religion.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 51-69.

Fifth week: Religion in Ancient Egypt - Concept for the universe - Deities and supernatural powers.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 71-82.

Sixth week: Old religions in Northern Arabia, concepts for God - appearance of monotheism.

Bibliography: - Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 99-126.

-Safijurrahman el-Mubarekfuri, Nektari i vulosur i xhenetit, Urtësia, Shkup, 1997.

Seventh week: Religion in Southern Arabia and in Central Arabia, cults - Ismaili a.s.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 129-136

Eighth week: Concept for God and faiths of Arabs.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 104-109.

Ninth week: Religions of illiterate people, Animism.

Bibliography:- Birol David, Nurit (1999) “Animism” Revisted: personhood, environment and relational epistemology in current anthropology volume 40, page 567.
-Ingold, time (2000) Totemism, Animism and the depiction of animals in the perception of the Environment: Essays on Livelihood, Dwelling and skill, London: Roatledge. Page 112-113.

Tenth week: Zoroastrianism - History

Bibliography: -.Oxtoby, Villard G. World Religions and Western Traditions the Pharsis, Sherdon Press London, pg. 86 .
-Choksy, Jamsgeed K. “Zoroastrianism”. Redmond, Wa: Microcoft Corporation, 2006.

Eleventh week: Buddhism - worshipping in Buddhism.

Bibliography: Dr. Zija Abdullahu, Studim krahasimtar i feve, Prishtinë, 2010, pg.79-97.

Twelfth week: Religions in China - Taoism, Confucism.

Bibliography: Dr. Zija Abdullahu, Studim krahasimtar i feve, Prishtinë, 2010 pg. 125-151

Thirteenth week: Religion and faiths of ancient Greeks.

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 139-146.

Fourteenth week: Old Roman faiths

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 147-154.

Fifteenth week: Old Teusone Religions and Faiths (Old German tribe).

Bibliography: Ekrem Sarekçeogllu, Historia e feve (prej fillimit deri sot), Llogos, Shkup, 2010, pg. 155-160.

Criteria and components of evaluation:

Attendance and engagement in lectures 10%

Seminar works 20%

Intermediary test 30%

Final exam 40%

Total 100%

Basic bibliography - mandatory:

1. Ekrem Sarëkqëollgu, Historia e feve, Logos-A, Shkup, 2010.

Consultative bibliography:

1. Dr. Zija Abdullahu, Studim krahasimtar i feve, Prishtinë 2010.

2. Kevin M. Schutzz and Paul Harvey, Everywhere and Nowhere: Recent Trends in American Religious History and Historiography, Journal of the American of Religion, 78, (March, 2010).