Course code	Course group	Volume in ECTS credits	Course valid from	Course valid to	Reg. No.
SOC 5012	C	6	2016 06 01	2019 06 01	

Course type (compulsory or optional)	Optional
Course level (study cycle)	Master
Semester the course is delivered	1st
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	Face-to-face

Course title in Lithuanian

Šiuolaikinė religijos sociologija

Course title in English

Contemporary Sociology of Religion

Short course annotation in Lithuanian (up to 500 characters)

Kurso metu analizuojama religijos kaip socialinės institucijos raida ir raiška šiuolaikinėje visuomenėje. Aptariama religijos apibrėžties problema, religingumo ir dvasingumo santykis, religinių organizacijų įvairovė – senos ir naujos religijos. Analizuojama religijos sąveika su kitomis visuomenės institucijomis tokiomis kaip politika, teisė, lytis ir šeima, švietimu ir mokslu, medicina ir ekologija, žiniasklaida ir pan. Diskutuojamos religijos empirinių tyrimų strategijos ir galimybės, iškylančios etinės problemos, insider/outsider perspektyvos. Išklausę kursą studentai supras religijos kaitos tendencijas šiuolaikinėje visuomenėje, gebės kritiškai vertinti religijos raišką ir jos formas, kaitą šiuolaikiniame kontekste. Mokės parengti ir atlikti socialinio religijos reiškinio empirinį tyrimą, komunikuoti su įvairių religinių bendruomenių atstovais ir suprasti jų perspektyvą, turės patirties kaip parengti religijos įvairovės sąlygomis iškylančias problemas spendžiančius mokslinius bei taikomuosius projektus.

Short course annotation in English (up to 500 characters)

The course focuses on religion as social institution and its expression and development in contemporary society. It discusses the issue of the definition of religion, the distinction between religiosity and spirituality, and a variety of religious organizations – old and new religions. It also analyzes the interaction of religion with other public institutions such as politics, law, gender and family, education and science, medicine and ecology, media, etc. Strategies and opportunities of empirical research of religion, ethical problems, differences of insider/outsider perspectives will also be discussed during the course. After the course students will be able to understand the trends and tendencies of religious change in contemporary society and to critically evaluate the manifestations of religion and their transformations. Students will learn to prepare and conduct the empirical research of religion, communicate with the representatives of various religious communities and understand their perspectives as well as prepare research and applied social projects aimed at addressing emerging issues of religious diversity.

Prerequisites for entering the course

-

Course aim

To understand and critically evaluate the development of religion in contemporary societies and to be able to propose solutions for scietific and social problems arrising in the context of religious diversity.

Links between study programme outcomes, course outcomes and criteria of learning achievement evaluation

Study programme outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
Competence to apply sociological theoretical models for the analysis of peculiarities of the functioning and development of society	To be able to apply sociological theoretical patterns for analysis of peculiarities of functioning and development of religion in contemporary society.	Graduates are able to apply sociological theoretical patterns for analysis of peculiarities of functioning and development of religion in contemporary society.
Competence to identify social problems within various social institutions – economics, politics, family, law, education, religion,	To be able to indicate social problems in institutional and individual levels of religious field.	Graduates are able to indicate social problems in institutional and individual levels of religious

1

		field.
Competence to prepare and implement research projects on social problems.	To be able to prepare and complete projects of research of social problems that arise in the religious field of contemporary societies.	Graduates are able to prepare and complete projects of research of social problems that arise in the religious field of contemporary societies.
Competence to analyse and interpret the data of sociological research and prepare research reports.	To be able to analyze and interpret data of sociological research of religion.	Graduates are able to analyze and interpret data of sociological research of religion.
Competence to analyse social problems from the perspective of local and global processes; competence to define solutions for social problems and possibilities to implement these solutions.	To be able to indicate social problems in the sphere of religion, problems of their solving and implementation, to analyze social problems of these spheres in local and global perspectives.	Graduates are able to indicate social problems in the sphere of religion, problems of their solving and implementation, to analyze social problems of these spheres in local and global perspectives.
Competence to consult state, NGO and private enterprises about the development of human resources, organizational culture, various minority groups about problematic questions of communication and interest adjustment by evaluating their intellectual and social resources.	To be able to consult state, NGO and private enterprises about the development of human resources, organizational culture, various minority groups about problematic questions of communication and interest adjustment by evaluating their intellectual and social resources;	Graduates are able to consult state, NGO and private enterprises about the development of human resources, organizational culture, religious minority groups about problematic questions of communication and interest adjustment by evaluating their intellectual and social resources;
Competence to convey clearly and unambiguously logical and based upon knowledge conclusions for audiences of specialists and non-specialists.	To be able to convey clearly and unambiguously logical and based upon knowledge conclusions for audiences of specialists and non-specialists.	Graduates are able to convey clearly and unambiguously logical and based upon knowledge conclusions for audiences of specialists and non-specialists.

Link between course outcomes and content

Course outcomes	Content (topics)
1. Graduates are able to apply sociological theoretical patterns for analysis of peculiarities of the functioning and development of religion in contemporary society.	Social scientific study of religion. Definitions of religion. Religiosity and spirituality. Religious organizations – old and new. Theoretical approaches within contemporary sociology of religion. Religion and Modernity. Religion and Postmodernity. Religion and Rational Choice Theory. Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion. How to research religion empirically? Quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of religions. Insider/outsider perspectives.
2. Graduates are able to indicate social problems in the institutional and individual levels of religious field.	Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion.
3. Graduates are able to prepare and complete research projects of social	Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion

problems that arise in the religious field of contemporary societies.	and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State.
4. Graduates are able to analyze and interpret data of sociological research of religion.	Social scientific study of religion. Definitions of religion. Religiosity and spirituality. Religious organizations – old and new. Theoretical approaches within contemporary sociology of religion. Religion and Modernity. Religion and Postmodernity. Religion and Rational Choice Theory. Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion. How to research religion empirically? Quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of religions.
5. Graduates are able to indicate social problems in the sphere of religion, problems of their solving and implementation, to analyze social problems of these spheres in local and global perspectives.	Social scientific study of religion. Definitions of religion. Religiosity and spirituality. Religious organizations – old and new. Theoretical approaches within contemporary sociology of religion. Religion and Modernity. Religion and Postmodernity. Religion and Rational Choice Theory. Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion. How to research religion empirically? Quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of religions.
6. Graduates are able to consult state, NGO and private enterprises about the development of human resources, organizational culture, religious minority groups about problematic questions of communication and interest adjustment by evaluating their intellectual and social resources	Social scientific study of religion. Definitions of religion. Religiosity and spirituality. Religious organizations – old and new. Theoretical approaches within contemporary sociology of religion. Religion and Modernity. Religion and Postmodernity. Religion and Rational Choice Theory. Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion. How to research religion empirically? Quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of religions.
7. Graduates are able to convey clearly and unambiguously logical and based upon knowledge conclusions for audiences of specialists and non-specialists.	Social scientific study of religion. Definitions of religion. Religiosity and spirituality. Religious organizations – old and new. Theoretical approaches within contemporary sociology of religion. Religion and Modernity. Religion and Postmodernity. Religion and Rational Choice Theory. Religion, Globalization and Migration. Religious Pluralism and Diversity. Religious Fundamentalism. Secularization or Religious Change? Religion and Gender. Religion and Family. Religion and Media. Religion and Science. Religion and Social Problems. Religion and State. Religion and Individual. Individual religion. How to research religion empirically? Quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of religions.

Study (teaching and learning) methods

Teaching methods: information provision, discussions, consultations, and analysis of empirical examples.
Learning methods: presentations / debates, writing of paper, work with literature and sources.

Methods of learning achievement assessment

Evaluation of presentations and debates, reading of papers.

Distribution of workload for students (contact and independent work hours)

Lectures	**15 hours**
Seminars	**30 hours**
Group work	**15 hours**
Laboratory work	-
Practical work	-
Individual students work	**100 hrs**. (individual written assignments – 40 hours; other individual work including preparation for midterm and final exam - 60 hours.)
Total:	**60 hours**

Structure of cumulative score and value of its constituent parts

Mid-term exam – 20 %, homework – 20 %, seminars and work in groups – 10 %, exam – 50 % of

cumulative score.				

Recommended reference materials

No.	Publication year	Authors of publication and title	Publishing house	Number of copies in		
				University library	*Self-study rooms*	*Other libraries*
Basic materials						
1.	1994	Casanova, J. Public Religions in the Modern World.	University of Chicago Press.	eBook	1	
2.	2000	Hervieu-Leger, D. *Religion and a Chain of Memory.*	Rutgers UP	eBook	1	
3.	2003	Beckford, J.A. *Religion and Social Theory.*	Cambridge UP	1		
4.	2004	Lewis, J.R. *The Oxford Handbook of New Religious Movements*.	Oxford UP	1		
5.	2003	Asad, T. *The Formation of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modenrity.*	Stanford UP	1		
6.	2007	Rey, T. *Bourdieu on Religion*	Equinox Publishing	1		
7.	2011	Turner, B. *Religion and Modern Society.*	Cambridge UP	1		
8.	2012	*Religious Diversity in Post-Soviet Society.* Eds. M.Ališauskienė and I.W. Schroeder	Ashgate	2		
Papildoma literatūra						
9.	2012	Pollack, D., Muller, O., Pickel, G. *The Social Significance of Religion in an Enlarged Europe: Secularization, Indivivualization and Pluralization.*	Routledge			
10.	2006	Ammermann, N. *Everyday Religion: Observing Mondern Lives.*	Oxford UP			

Course programme designed by

Assoc. prof. dr. Milda Ališauskienė, Department of Sociology