

**PROGRAMME APPROVAL FORM
SECTION 1 – THE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

1. Programme title and designation		Religion, Politics and Society		
		For undergraduate programmes only Single honours Joint Major/minor		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Final award				
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
BA (Hons)	Religion, Politics & Society	360	180	N/A
3. Nested awards				
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4. Exit awards				
Award	Title	Credit Value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
Ordinary degree	Religion, Politics & Society	300	150	N/A
Undergraduate Diploma (UGDip)	Religion, Politics & Society	240	120	N/A
Undergraduate Certificate (UGCert)	Religion, Politics & Society	120	60	N/A
5. Level in the qualifications framework		6		
6. Attendance				
	Full-time	Part-time	Distance learning	
Mode of attendance	X	X	No	
Minimum length of programme	3 years	6 years	N/A	
Maximum length of programme	10 years	10 years	N/A	
7. Awarding institution/body		King's College London, University of London		
8. Teaching institution		King's College London, University of London		
9. Proposing department		Department of Theology and Religious Studies		

10. Programme co-ordinator and contact Details	Dr. Marat Shterin, Dept of Theology and Religious Studies, KCL, 6F Chesham Building, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS, tel. 020 7848 2637, marat.shterin@kcl.ac.uk
11. UCAS code (if appropriate)	V620
12. Relevant QAA subject benchmark/ Professional, statutory and regulatory body guidelines	Theology and Religious Studies Benchmark Statement
13. Date of production of specification	October 2012
14. Date of programme review	2013/14
15 Entry profile	
Academic criteria	
GCSE	School entry requirements
AS/A Level	3 A-levels, typically min. grades AAB + 1 AS
Aptitude tests	Students for whom English is an additional language must demonstrate a language ability equivalent to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS 7.5; or • TOEFL (paper-based) 670; or • TOEFL (computer-based) 267. • It is possible for an applicant who is close to the required level (ie. IELTS 7.0) and who applies to the pre-sessional English course at the KCL English Language Centre to be admitted if the admissions tutor feels that the candidate has now reached the required level for participation in an H-level programme.
Degree	n/a
Postgraduate degree	n/a
Professional Qualifications	n/a

16. Educational aims of the programme

The programme aims at providing students with knowledge and skills for analysing religion from social scientific perspectives: anthropological, sociological and political, with a particular focus on contemporary societies. It comprises three main areas in the academic study of religion: fundamental anthropological, sociological, and political science concepts, theories and methodological approaches to the study of religion. While providing comprehensive introductions to these areas, the programme is flexible enough to allow specialisation in their specific aspects through elective modules and the opportunity to write a final year dissertation. The programme also addresses broader issues of students' personal development and societal needs through

- Providing the intellectual environment and logistics for developing analytical skills and critical thought in finding and assessing evidence and reaching sound and justifiable conclusions

- Training students to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Sensitising students to complex interactions and intersections between religious beliefs and practices, and their social contexts thereby developing empathetic yet critical approaches to both familiar and unfamiliar manifestations of religion.
- Meeting the needs of employers and the wider community for adaptable, intelligent and articulate employees and citizens who can think for themselves.
- Providing education for people from a wide range of cultural, religious and educational backgrounds including mature students.
- Meeting the growing need for employees with understanding of and practical skills in tackling the issues that arise in a religiously pluralistic society.

17. Educational objectives of the programme/programme outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding and skills in the following areas:

Knowledge and understanding

The programme provides a **knowledge and understanding** of the following:

- Key theories and concepts in anthropological, sociological, and political science perspectives on religion
- Basic methods in the social scientific study of religion
- Key concepts, methods, and factual knowledge in the study of religions across the world
- Key ethical issues in the academic study of religion and in resolving social issues related to religion
- Manifestations of religious discourses, practices, and movements in selected contexts.

Ethical issues:

Is aware of personal responsibility conduct and where appropriate/relevant can incorporate a critical ethical dimension into a major piece of work.

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies**:

- Lectures will introduce key concepts, theories, and methods;
- Classes and seminars will provide opportunities for group discussions and individual presentations;
- Tutorials will discuss individual projects, questions, and essays
- Individual supervision of independent projects
- Group visits to religious groups will provide unique opportunities to observe and analyse contemporary religious beliefs and practices from a variety of perspectives
- Private study that includes using library resources

Assessment:

- Unseen examination
- Course -work assessment
- Independent Study Project
- Oral presentation

Skills and other attributes

Intellectual skills:

- Can analyse more abstract texts, evidence, etc without guidance,

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies**:

using a range of approaches and techniques appropriate to the subject;

- With minimum guidance can critically assesses secondary literature and important ideas to develop an argument;
- Can critically evaluate material to support conclusions, reviewing its reliability, validity and significance. Can investigate contradictory information/identify reasons for contradictions;
- Is confident and flexible in identifying and defining complex issues within the discipline and can apply appropriate knowledge and skills in addressing them.

Lectures, classes, group discussions, individual presentations, individual research projects, group visits to religious groups – see detailed descriptions above

Assessment:
course essay, unseen written examination, oral presentation, Independent Study Project

Practical skills:

- Can operate in complex and unpredictable contexts, requiring selection and application from a wide range of methods and activities;
- Able to act autonomously, with minimal supervision or direction, within agreed guidelines.

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

Tutorials on use of library resources and essay writing, individual presentations, visits to religious groups with subsequent discussions and essay writing.

Assessment: course essay, unseen written examination, oral presentation, Independent Study Project

Generic/transferable skills:

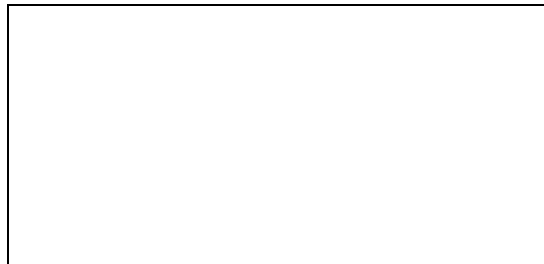
- Can interact effectively within a team/learning group, recognise, support or be proactive in leadership, negotiate and manage conflict;
- With minimum guidance can manage own learning using full range of resources for the discipline(s);
- Is confident in application of own criteria of judgement and can challenge received opinion. Can seek and make use of feedback;
- Can select and manage information, competently undertaking reasonably straight-forward research tasks with minimum guidance;
- Can take responsibility for own work and can criticise it;

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

Lectures, classes, private tutorials, private study, individual presentations, groups discussions.

Assessment:
Course essay, unseen written examination, oral presentation, Individual Study Project.

- Can engage effectively in debate in a professional manner and give detailed and coherent presentations;
- Is confident and flexible in identifying and defining complex issues and can apply appropriate knowledge and skills in addressing them.



18. Statement of how the programme has been informed by the relevant subject benchmark statement(s)/professional, statutory and regulatory body guidelines

The Programme is designed to meet the aims and objectives stated in the Theology and Religious Studies Benchmark Statement which conceives the field broadly as including a rich diversity of providers and academic frameworks. It notes that particular programmes will touch on most of the following and focus on some of them:

- A broadly based core, together with the wider context required for the subject area programme in question and specialised study in depth of some aspects of the discipline or field
- Provision of knowledge and understanding of religious discourses, practices, and movements, including awareness of diversity and debate within and between religions
- The application of a variety of critical methods of study and approaches
- Development, through engagement with intellectually challenging courses, of the core skills in the humanities and social sciences: effective use of sources of information, critical interpretation, assessment and presentation of evidence, and coherent analysis, argument and expression
- Ethics, morality and values

Furthermore, the Programme will sharpen the focus on the interactions between religion and society, which is implicit in the subject Benchmark Statement.

19. Programme structure and award requirements (where relevant the information should also differentiate the particular requirements of pathways within a programme or linked/exit awards)

(a) Numbers of compulsory and optional units to be taken in each year of the programme,

NB language modules may be taken at a higher level (for Years 1 + 2, full time, and Years 1-4, part time); and for Year 3 full time, and Years 5-6, part time, language modules may be taken at level 4, subject to assessment of appropriate level by the Modern Language Centre.

Year 1

120 credits earned through 3 x 15 credit compulsory modules, 30 credits from list and 45 credits of optional modules. All modules at Level 4.

Year 2

120 credits earned through 2 x 15 credits compulsory modules, 30 credits from list and 60 credits of optional modules. Minimum 90 credits at level 5; max 30 credits allowed at level 4

Year 3

120 credits earned through 120 credits of optional modules. Minimum 90 credits at level 6; max 30 credits allowed at level 5.

Part Time

Year 1

60 credits earned through 2 x 15 credit compulsory modules and 30 credits of optional modules. All modules at Level 4.

Year 2

60 credits earned through 1x 15 credits compulsory module, 2 x 15 credit modules from list and 15 credits of optional modules. All modules at Level 4.

Year 3

60 credits earned through a minimum of 15 credits of compulsory modules and 45 credits of optional modules or maximum of 30 credits compulsory modules and 30 credits of optional modules. Minimum 45 credits at level 5; max 15 credits allowed at level 4.

Year 4

60 credits earned through a minimum of 15 credits of compulsory modules and 45 credits of optional modules or maximum of 15 credits compulsory modules and 45 credits of optional modules. Minimum 45 credits at level 5; max 15 credits allowed at level 4.

Year 5

60 credits earned through 15 credits of a module from list and 45 credits of optional modules from prescribed list. Minimum 45 credits at level 6; max 15 credits allowed at level 5.

Year 6

Part time/Year 6:

60 credits earned through optional modules. Minimum 45 credits at level 6; max 15 credits allowed at level 5.

(b) range of credit levels permitted within the programme

Levels 4, 5 and 6.

(c) maximum number of credits permitted at the lowest level

150 credits.

(d) minimum number of credits required at the highest level

90 credits.

(e) progression and award requirements (if different from the standard)

Standard.

(f) maximum number of credits permitted with a condoned fail

45 at levels 4, 5 or 6 with a condoned fail mark of 33-39

(g) Students may take supplementary modules with a view to gaining additional credit, but subject to departmental approval and according to College regulations for additional credit in BA programmes.

(h) Are students permitted to take a substitute module, as per regulation A3 20.7?

Yes

(i) other relevant information to explain the programme structure

The programme is designed as full-time over three years or part time over six years.

Part time students take a maximum of 60 credits in each year of study.

Programme approval 2006/07

In years 3 and 4 students have the option of taking up to 45 credits of compulsory Level 5 modules in either year. If 15 credits are taken in Year 3, then the student must take the remaining 30 credits in Year 4 and vice-versa.

Students may take a maximum of 60 credits over the course of the degree, and a maximum of 30 credits in any one year, from other departments in the Faculty/College. All module selections must be approved by Programme Coordinator.

Subject to passing the college weighted average mark threshold (or if a special case is made), students may attend an approved institute abroad for one or both semesters in Year 2. Marks achieved abroad will be marked according to the scheme approved in advance by the Faculty Undergraduate Assessment Board and the College Assessment and Standards Committee.'

20. Programme structure

See Programme Handbook for modules to be taken.

21. Marking criteria

All modules will be marked in accordance with the Faculty's marking criteria where such exists, or else in accordance with the College's generic marking criteria.