City University of Hong Kong Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Public and International Affairs with effect from Semester A 2022/23

Part I Course Overv	riew
Course Title:	Religion and Development
Course Code:	PIA5044
Course Duration:	One Semester
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P5
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Precursors: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title)	AIS5044 Religion and Development
Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course is at the intersection of 'sociology of religions' and 'development studies'. It aims to develop students' critical understanding of how different religious traditions, by way of instilling certain cultural values, can affect economic institutions such as work ethic, individual empowerment, etc., and other norms important for socio-economic development. The course will equip students with key concepts that will allow them to analyze religious values impacting development, and familiarize them with the various approaches different faiths employ to tackle issues such as poverty and wealth, health, empowerment, charity, work, social order and wellbeing. The course will cover historical and current cases that will exemplify these various viewpoints. Its materials will also illustrate how religious views can either impede or encourage economic development and more broadly human development. Case studies will serve as a foundation for analyses and discussions of some of the ethical issues and tensions arising at the interface between religion and development. Finally, it will look at the ways of how economic growth and rising living standards in some emerging economies may be changing (if at all) the religious landscape there.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting	Discov	•	
		(if	curricu		
		applicable)	learnin	g outco	mes
			(please	tick	where
			approp	riate)	
			Al	A2	A3
1.	To understand what role(s) religion can play in the context	25	✓	√	✓
	of development.				
2.	To learn from historical and more recent cases that are	25	✓	✓	✓
	relevant for the understanding of the relation between				
	religion and development.				
3.	To understand how 'development' is construed within	25	✓	✓	√
	different faiths.				
4.	To analyze some of the contentious ethical issues arising	25	√	√	✓
	between faith communities and 'development agents'.				
	1 5	100%		1	<u> </u>

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs) (TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO	O No.		Hours/week (if		
		1	2	3	4		applicable)
1	Lectures: instructor will give a presentation of each topic, introducing theoretical, historical and applied issues that will be further developed and analyzed in the course of students' reading and discussions.	√	√	√	√		Most weeks (except guest lectures and the film)
2	In-class discussion of assigned readings: students are expected to do two main readings per class and be ready to discuss main questions raised in the text. They will also be expected to learn new concepts from texts and apply them critically to real-life situations.	✓	✓	✓	✓		All weeks
3	In-class research: students will work in small groups to do research on an issue(s) and present their research findings on the spot. Emphasis will be on research skills, speed, experimentation and clear information presentation.	√	√	√	√		All weeks
4	Analytical notes: based on readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues.	√	√	✓	√		See the details in the course outline
5	Research presentations: students will prepare team presentations on the topic of 'Religion and Development in (a country)', using all their knowledge of the course to analyze the situation in a country.	√	√	√	√		Weeks 10, 11 and 12

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks		
	1	2	3	4				
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
Attendance and class discussions of	✓	√	√	√		20		
readings								
Analytical notes	√	√	√	√		30		
Research presentations	√	\checkmark	✓	✓		25		
Documentary film assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓		10		
Feature film assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓		15		
Examination: 0% (duration: N/A, if applicable)								

100%

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2022/23 and thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent	Good	Marginal	Failure
		(A+, A, A-)	(B+, B)	(B-, C+, C)	(F)
1.Attendance and class discussions of readings	Active participation in class discussion	 Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis 	 Good understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Evidence of some good Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis 	 Average to below average understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Some attempts at analytical thinking 	Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development
2.Analytical notes		Superior in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues.	Good in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues.	Average to below average in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues.	Poor in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues.
3.Research presentations	Group presentation	 Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use 	 Good understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Evidence of some good Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis A reasonably wide range of references consulted, including 	 Average to below average understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Some attempts at analytical thinking Barely sufficient use of scholarly materials Reasonable standard of 	 Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly materials consulted Poor quality structure and presentation

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent	Good	Marginal	Failure
		(A+, A, A-)	(B+, B)	(B-, C+, C)	(F)
		of	good use of	expression; average to	
		scholarly materials	Scholarly materials	below average quality in	
		to support all key	to support all key	terms of organization and	
		arguments made	arguments made	coherence	
		Very well organized;	 Well organized; 		
		coherent arguments	coherent arguments		
		presented with a high	presented with a high		
		standard of expression	standard of		
			expression		
4.Documentary film		1. Superior command of	1. Good command of	1. Average to below	1. Little evidence of
assignment		knowledge of salient	knowledge of salient	average command of	knowledge of salient
		aspects of the	aspects of the	knowledge of salient	aspects of the
		Documentary film	Documentary film	aspects of the	Documentary film. 2. Little evidence of
		2. Superior	2. Good understanding of	Documentary film	
		understanding of major works of Documentary	major works of	2. A certain degree of understanding of major	understanding major works of Documentary
		film and their	Documentary film and their aesthetic,	works of Documentary	film and their aesthetic,
		aesthetic, historical	historical and cultural	film and their	historical and cultural
		and cultural value.	value.	aesthetic, historical	value.
		3. Superior oral and	3. Good oral and written	and cultural value.	3. Poor oral and written
		written presentation skills	presentation skills to	3. Barely acceptable oral	presentation skills to
		to demonstrate an	demonstrate an informed	and written presentation	demonstrate basic
		informed understanding	understanding of	skills to demonstrate	understanding of
		of important concepts and	important concepts and	basic understanding of	important concepts and
		terminology and their	terminology and their	important concepts and	terminology in the study
		application in the study of	application in the study of	terminology in the study	of Documentary film.
		Documentary film.	Documentary film.	of Documentary film.	,
5.Feature film		1. Superior command of	1. Good command of	1. Average to below	1. Little evidence of
assignment		knowledge of salient	knowledge of salient	average command of	knowledge of salient
		aspects of the Feature	aspects of the Feature	knowledge of salient	aspects of the Feature
		film	film	aspects of the Feature	film.
		2. Superior	2. Good understanding of	film	2. Little evidence of
		understanding of major	major works of Feature	2. A certain degree of	understanding major
		works of Feature film	film and their aesthetic,	understanding of major	works of Documentary
		and their aesthetic,	historical and cultural	works of Feature film	film and their aesthetic,

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent	Good	Marginal	Failure
		(A+, A, A-)	(B+, B)	(B-, C+, C)	(F)
		historical and cultural	value.	and their aesthetic,	historical and cultural
		value.	3. Good oral and written	historical and cultural	value.
		3. Superior oral and	presentation skills to	value.	3. Poor oral and written
		written presentation skills	demonstrate an informed	3. Average to below	presentation skills to
		to demonstrate an	understanding of	average oral and written	demonstrate basic
		informed understanding	important concepts and	presentation skills to	understanding of
		of important concepts and	terminology and their	demonstrate basic	important concepts and
		terminology and their	application in the study of	understanding of	terminology in the study
		application in the study of	Feature film.	important concepts and	of Feature film.
		Feature film.		terminology in the study	
				of Feature film.	

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1.Attendance and class discussions of readings	Active participation in class discussion	 Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis 	 Good understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Evidence of some good Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis 	 Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Some attempts at analytical thinking 	 Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant concepts 	Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development
2.Analytical notes		Superior in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and	Good in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five	Sufficient in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five	Some knowledge in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five	Poor in readings, class discussions and independent research students will examine and write up to five short pieces on the

(A+, A, A-) write up to five short pieces on the short pieces on the problematic and/or problematic and/or current debates on current debates on contentious or contentiou	Marginal (D) Short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant concepts	Failure (F) problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
write up to five short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentations Group presentation 3.Research presentations Group presentation The presentation presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation The problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious or important issues. 5. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development The presentation occurrent debates on contentious occurrent deb	short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation Group presentation Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Supficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development development development some good critical analysis of references consulted, including good use of references scholarly materials to Short pieces on the problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Some other understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development development of infrastructure development development some good critical analysis of independent thinking and critical analysis of references consulted, including good use of references consulted, including good in terms of standard of expression; average quality in terms of	problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	current debates on contentious or important issues. Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentation Group presentation Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to problematic and/or current debates on contentious or important issues. Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Current debates on contentious or important issues. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis or consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Current debates on contentious or important issues. Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis or consulted, including good Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis or group a materials Reasonable standard of expression; average quality in terms of	contentious or important issues. Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	contentious or important issues. Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
Current debates on contentious or important issues. 3.Research presentations Group presentation Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis of references scholarly materials to Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis of references scholarly materials to Superior important issues. Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis of references consulted, including good use of references consulted, including good in terms of important issues. Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development of infrastructure development or problem of infrastructure development or probl	contentious or important issues. Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	 Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
3.Research presentation Group presentation Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to contentious or important issues. Inportant issues. Important issues. Inportant issues. I	Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	 Little evidence of knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
3.Research presentations Group presentation o Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development o Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis o Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to important issues. Group presentation o Superior understanding of a major issue or of a major issue or or problem of infrastructure development development o Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis o Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of references scholarly materials to important issues. Good understanding on understanding on a major issue or problem of infrastructure development o Evidence of some attempts at analytical thinking and critical analysis o Reasonable standard of expression; average quality in terms of	Some knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
3.Research presentations Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Superior understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Sufficient understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis of references consulted, including good use of references consulted, including good in terms of	a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
presentations understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Evidence of some good thinking and critical analysis consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to Independent understanding of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development development Evidence of some attempts at analytical thinking and critical analysis or problem of infrastructure development Clear ability of independent thinking and critical analysis Extensive range of references consulted, including good use of scholarly materials to including good in terms of	a major issue or problem of infrastructure development Little evidence of analysis of relevant	knowledge of a major issue or problem of infrastructure development No scholarly
arguments made materials to Very well support all key organized; arguments made coherent made arguments o Well presented with a high standard coherent	 Very limited use of scholarly materials Acceptable organization of a mostly descriptive essay 	materials consulted Poor quality structure and presentation

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent	Good	Fair	Marginal	Failure
		(A+, A, A-)	(B+, B, B-)	(C+, C, C-)	(D)	(F)
4.Documentary film assignment		1. Superior command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Documentary film 2. Superior understanding of major works of Documentary film and their aesthetic, historical and cultural value. 3. Superior oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate an informed understanding of important concepts and terminology and their application in the study of Documentary film.	1. Good command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Documentary film 2. Good understanding of major works of Documentary film and their aesthetic, historical and cultural value. 3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate an informed understanding of important concepts and terminology and their application in the study of Documentary film.	1. Sufficient command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Documentary film 2. A certain degree of understanding of major works of Documentary film and their aesthetic, historical and cultural value. 3. Acceptable oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate basic understanding of important concepts and terminology in the study of Documentary film.	 Some command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Documentary film Marginal command of understanding of major works of Documentary film and their aesthetic, historical and cultural value. Marginally acceptable oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate basic understanding of important concepts and terminology in the study of Documentary film. 	1. Little evidence of knowledge of salient aspects of the Documentary film. 2. Little evidence of understanding major works of Documentary film and their aesthetic, historical and cultural value. 3. Poor oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate basic understanding of important concepts and terminology in the study of Documentary film.
5.Feature film assignment		1. Superior command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Feature film 2. Superior	1. Good command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Feature film	1. Sufficient command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Feature film	Some command of knowledge of salient aspects of the Feature film Marginal command	1. Little evidence of knowledge of salient aspects of the Feature film.

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent	Good	Fair	Marginal	Failure
		(A+, A, A-)	(B+, B, B-)	(C+, C, C-)	(D)	(F)
		understanding of	2. Good		of understanding of	
		major works of	understanding of	2. A certain degree	major works of	
		Feature film and	major works of	of understanding	Feature film and	2. Little evidence of
		their aesthetic,	Feature film and	of major works of	their aesthetic,	understanding major
		historical and	their aesthetic,	Feature film and	historical and	works of Documentary
		cultural value.	historical and	their aesthetic,	cultural value.	film and their aesthetic,
		3. Superior oral and	cultural value.	historical and		historical and cultural
		written	3. Good oral and	cultural value.		value.
		presentation	written	3. Acceptable oral	3. Marginally	
		skills to	presentation	and written	acceptable oral and	
		demonstrate an	skills to	presentation skills	written presentation	3. Poor oral and written
		informed	demonstrate an	to demonstrate	skills to demonstrate	presentation skills to
		understanding of	informed	basic	basic understanding	demonstrate basic
		important	understanding of	understanding of	of important	understanding of
		concepts and	important	important concepts	concepts and	important concepts and
		terminology and	concepts and	and terminology in	terminology in the	terminology in the
		their application	terminology and	the study of	study of Feature	study of Feature film.
		in the study of	their application	Feature film.	film.	
		Feature film.	in the study of			
			Feature film.			

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Religion; faith-based organizations; bilateral and multilateral aid agencies; the Washington consensus; neoliberal model of development; modernization; Liberation theology; The World Bank; non-governmental organizations (NGOs); economic growth; poverty alleviation; wellbeing; GDP; Gross Happiness Index (GHI); secularization; globalization

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

Course Texts:

Rist, Gilbert. The history of development, 3rd edition, New York: Zed Books, 2008

Deneulin, Severine and Masooda Bano. *Religion in development: rewriting the secular script*, New York: Zed Books, 2009

Recommended Reading:

Beyer, Peter and Lori Beaman, eds. Religion, globalization and culture. Leiden: Brill, 2007

Clarke, Gerard and Michael Jennings, eds. Development, civil society and faith-based organizations. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

Eade, Deborah, ed. Development and culture. London: Oxfam Great Britain, 2002

Kurtz, Lester. Gods in the global village: the world's religious in sociological perspective Thousand Oaks, CA, 2007

Neilson, Reid L., ed. The rise of Mormonism. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005

Norris, Pippa and Ronald Inglehart. Sacred and secular: religion and politics worldwide, 2004.

Sachs, Wolfang, ed. The development dictionary: a guide to knowledge as power. New York: Zed Books, 1992

Sherman, Amy. The soul of development. New York: OUP, 1997

Swenson, Donald. Society, spirituality and the sacred: a social scientific introduction. Peterborough, ON: Broadview Press, Ltd., 1999

Thomas, Scott. The global resurgence of religions and the transformation of international relations. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

Online Resources: www.wfdd.org.uk; www.worldbank.org; www.rad.bham.ac.uk