

HUMN 7033 RELIGION AND LAW IN CONTEMPORARY PUBLIC DISCOURSE

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102202

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Description Debates over the role of religion as well as religious law in the public sphere have been ongoing themes in recent decades in many countries. Religion and law are two important yet rival sources of normative reasoning of public order in which they are constitutive, regulative and coercive forces. The unit introduces students to various understanding of the interrelations between religion and law in the societal and individual domains of the public sphere; and reflects on the contentious nature of the relationships given sensitive issues such as religious education, equal marriage, abortion, human rights. In the first part of the unit, students study the relationship between law and religion in various faiths such as Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. The second part examines how different religious traditions interact and intersect with different legal traditions (common and civil law system) in a range of countries (for example Australia, UK, Israel, Indonesia, India, Iran).

School Social Sciences

Discipline Studies In Human Society

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Level Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Assumed Knowledge

Undergraduate degree or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Explain the intricate relationship between religion and law in multi-faith contexts and in relation to diverse social issues;
2. Analyse prevailing debates about state policies that concern faith and religious communities in various countries with different legal systems;
3. 3. Assess the implications of the positioning of religious discourses and religious law in the public sphere.

Subject Content

The intersections of religion and law

Religion and law in Judaism

Religion and law in Christianity

Religion and law in Islam

Religion and law in Hinduism

Between religious and secular legislations

Between official and unofficial courts

Between private and public schools

Between pillarisation and deconfessionalisation

Can religion and law reconcile?

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Item	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/Group Task
Essay	1,000 words	20	N	Individual
Book Review	1,500 words	30	N	Individual
Essay	2,000 words	50	N	Individual

Teaching Periods