Institut für Religionswissenschaft (IRW)
Institute for the Study of Religion



Module Catalogue

Master Programme "Religion in the Public Sphere"

a) Qualification Goals

Tasks and requirements of the degree programme

This degree programme puts its focus on research into the challenges and potentials of multicultural and heterogeneous contemporary societies. Subject-specific requirements for this programme comprise an empirical approach to religion in various areas of the public sphere as well as a theory- and practice-based understanding and analysis. Special consideration is given to the negotiation the category of religion in different social fields and the production of knowledge about religion. This necessitates likewise an intensive study of the category of secularity.

Qualification goals

- Well-grounded and sound understanding of the dynamics and transformations in the subject area
- Ability to scientifically describe, critically analyse and conceptualise main lines of conflicts and potentials of multicultural, democratically constituted societies
- Ability to deal confidently and constructively with knowledge of conflict constellations in order to develop sustainable, solution-oriented strategies
- Training an intercultural perspective and strengthening a confident appearance in international contexts
- Enabling students to apply scientific standards and a sound understanding of social and cultural science methods to research
- Preparing students for professional challenges by enabling them to work independently in academic contexts as well as to analyse, prepare and present subject-relevant topics for different occupational contexts.

Graduates of the MA Religion in the Public Sphere are able ...

- to analyse and classify the dynamics of structural transformations in societies in a competent and solution-oriented manner on the basis of their acquired critical thinking skills, intercultural competences, problem-solving skills and (self-) reflective action;
- to comprehend different complex perspectives, to relate them to each other and to develop solution strategies;
- to recognise and break down entrenched judgmental patterns;
- to develop options for action and to communicate them in the various professional fields within and outside the academic field as well as on an international level;
- to identify and/or develop central future tasks and research questions on the basis of social and cultural science knowledge resources, to develop suitable research designs, to carry out research in a methodologically adequate manner, to present research results according to scientific standards and to connect to academic/scientific discourses;
- to organise work processes in subject-related projects independently, design them cooperatively, moderate and present them in a goal-oriented manner.

b) Module Catalogue Master Religion in the Public Sphere

	ule Title		Module Code
	ductory Module		NA 11 T
	Degree CourseModule TypeReligion in the Public SphereCompulsory module		
Credit Points 10 CP		Frequency of Occurence Every winter semester	Language English
Specia -	al Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Stude	ent Workload		
Total r 300 H	ir. of hours ours	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours
Furth -	er Use of Module		,
1	relevant theories in the Study theories. In addition, it intends	t on the research areas of the programme a of Religions and the social and cultural scies to raise the students' awareness for interd inspire the students to critically reflect the sand/or occupation.	ences, including the history of these isciplinary challenges and methods.
2	Module Contents The introductory module lays out the theoretical and methodological basics concerning the scholarly study of religion in the public sphere. The lecture course will discuss the core concepts "religion" and "the public sphere" in two ways: (1) a dedicated session on the genealogy and the entanglement of both concepts and (2) lectures by researchers and scholars who operationalize and discuss "religion" and "the public sphere" as concepts and/or categories. The seminar will provide a prelude to the negotiation of religion in the public sphere in form of case studies coming from different social fields.		
3	Forms of Teaching and Courses • Lecture (2 SWS) • Seminar (2 SWS)		
4a	Participation Requirements		
4b	Recommendations The Introductory Module should be completed in the first semester in order to be able to understand the basics aspects concerning the scholarly study of religion in the public sphere and in order to have a general impression of the approaches, themes and issues central to the field.		
5	Requirements for Allocation	of Credit Points	
	Course Achievements: • Course work (e.g. presentation, essay, thesis statement) in the course in which the examination in not taken (usually in the seminar)		ourse in which the examination is
		in which the course work is not taken (usu utes) or oral examination (20 minutes)	ally in the lecture): written
6	Literature Will be provided at the beginning of e	ach term	
7	Further Information		
8	Organisational Unit Faculty of Humanities, Institute for th	e Study of Religion in cooperation with Institute of So	ciology
9	Person responsible for module Dr. Ingo Bultmann, Dr. Steffen Führdir	2	

Modu	le Title		Module Code
	atic Module I: Education and Re	esearch	
_	e Course	Module Type	
Religion in the Public Sphere			Compulsory module
Credit 10 CP	Points	Frequency of Occurence Every winter semester	Language English
-	l Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Stude	nt Workload		
Total nr 300 Ho	r. of hours urs	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours
Furth:	er Use of Module		1
1	and contextualised in their re students compare different ap Thus, the groundwork is laid f specifics in the field of religio	enerating and communicating knowledge at spective social, cultural and political context proaches to education and research about ror them to critically analyse recurrent patten, education and research and to explain the ermore, relevant for getting an overview over methodological debates.	ts in international perspective. The religion in international perspective. rns and national and regional ese in their respective contexts. The
2	Module Contents The students study different disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to the Study of Religion, with an emphasis on current theoretical and methodological debates in the Study of Religion. Furthermore, the module focuses on the communication of knowledge about religion in different educational contexts, including the university and the public school.		of Religion. Furthermore, the
3	Forms of Teaching and Courses Seminar (2 SWS) Seminar (2 SWS)		
4a	Participation Requirements; Recommendations		
4b	Recommendations We recommend completing this module in the first semester in order to be able to concentrate on the field module or to study a semester abroad in the third semester.		ne able to concentrate on the field
5	Requirements for Allocation		
	Course Achievements: • Course work (e.g. prenot taken	esentation, essay, thesis statement) in the co	ourse in which the examination is
	examination (20 mir	e in which the course work is not taken: tern outes), written examination (60 minutes) or a entation (10–30 minutes)); details will be an	accompanying exam (e.g. portfolio
6	Literature		
7	Further Information Compulsory module for students of t	ne University Roma Tre and Södertörn Högskola in the I	Double Degree Track.
8	Organisational Unit Faculty of Humanities, Institute for the	ne Study of Religion	
9	Person responsible for modu Prof. Dr. Wanda Alberts	le	

Modu	le Title		Module Code
	atic Module II: Politics and Law		Module code
	e Course	Module Type	
	on in the Public Sphere		Compulsory module
	Points	Frequency of Occurence Every winter semester	Language English
-	l Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Stude	nt Workload		
Total ni 300 Ho	r. of hours urs	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours
Furth -	ner Use of Module		,
1	in national and international p or individual religions. The stuc sources which can then be exp Thereby, the students are lead understand the parameters tha	e the negotiation of religion-related topics is erspective, with a particular focus on the restents learn to research, differentiate betweer lained in relation their respective contexts. to carefully analyse the narrow line between t frame various discourses about religion, poterent kinds of discourses (e.g. religious, scient issues on an academic level.	pective constructions of "religion" n and analyse different types of n facts and opinions and to litics and law. This enables them
3	Module Contents The thematic module II "Politics and Law" critically analyses the negotiation of questions related to religion/ and worldview/s in different political and legal contexts, with an emphasis on the tension between religion and secularity in current societies. Using examples from different types of discourse about religion, politics and law, it demonstrates the academic approach to the subject matter and in how far this differs from othe approaches. Forms of Teaching and Courses • Seminar (2 SWS) • Seminar (2 SWS)		on the tension between religion discourse about religion, politics
4a	Participation Requirements; Recommendations		
4b	Recommendations We recommend the completion of this module in the first semester in order to be able to concentrate on the field module or to study a semester abroad in the third semester.		r to be able to concentrate on the
5	Requirements for Allocation of Course Achievements:		rse in which the examination is
	 Offered in the course in which the course work is not taken: term paper (10-15 pages), oral examination (20 minutes), written examination (60 minutes) or accompanying exam (e.g. portfolio (8-10 pages) or presentation (10-30 minutes); details will be announced at the beginning of the course) 		
6	Literature		
7	Further Information Compulsory module for students of the	· University Roma Tre and Södertörn Högskola in the Do	ouble Degree Track.
8	Organisational Unit	Study of Religion in cooperation with Institute of Soci	-
9	Person responsible for module Prof. Dr. Wanda Alberts, Prof. Dr. Wolf		

Modu	le Title		Module Code
	atic Module III: Society and Cult	ure	Wodule Code
			Module Type
Religion in the Public Sphere			Compulsory module
	Points	Frequency of Occurence Every Summer semester	Language English
Specia -	l Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study 2	Module Duration 1 Semester
Stude	nt Workload		
Total ni 300 Ho	r. of hours urs	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours
Furth	ner Use of Module		
1	of religious and secular values arguments and to explain then relationship between religion a handling this relationship. The and opinions and to understan society. This enables them to it	iate between different lines of arguments in the in contemporary societies. They learn to content in their respective social and cultural context and secularity in different societies, learning to reby, the students are lead to carefully analysed the parameters that frame various discoursed the character of different kinds of discopportunity to discuss these issues on an acade	xtualise these lines of ts. They critically analyse the explain different modes of the narrow line between facts about religion, culture and burses (e.g. religious, scientific)
2	Module Contents The thematic module III "Society and Culture" critically analyses the social relevance of religions and worldviews in different cultural contexts with an emphasis on the tension between religion and secularity in current societies. Using examples from different types of discourse about religion, culture and society, it demonstrates the academic approach to the subject matter and in how far this differs from other approaches		levance of religions and tween religion and secularity in gion, culture and society, it
3	Forms of Teaching and Courses Seminar (2 SWS) Seminar (2 SWS)		
4a	Participation Requirements; Recommendations		
4b	Recommendations We recommend completing this module in the second semester in order to be able to concentrate on the master thesis in the fourth semester.		e able to concentrate on the
5	Requirements for Allocation of	of Credit Points	
	Course Achievements: • Course work (e.g. presonot taken	sentation, essay, thesis statement) in the cours	e in which the examination is
	examination (20 mini	in which the course work is not taken: term pa utes), written examination (60 minutes) or acco ntation (10-30 minutes); details will be annou	ompanying exam (e.g. portfolio
6	Literature		
7	Further Information		
8	Organisational Unit Faculty of Humanities, Institute for th	e Study of Religion in cooperation with Institute of Sociolo	ogy
9	Person responsible for module Prof. Dr. Mathias Bös, Prof. Dr. Wanda	2	

Module Title		Module Code
Research Debates		
Degree Course	Module Type	
Religion in the Public Sphe	ere	Compulsory module
Credit Points 10 CP	Frequency of Occurence Every Summer semester	Language English
Special Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Student Workload		
Total nr. of hours 300 Hours	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours
Further Use of Module		
approaches within to each other. The second related to interdisciplays, for example, the	sodule on current research debates leads the studer the Study of Religion and Sociology to the topic astudents' ability to work interdisciplinary and to resiplinary work shall be acquired in the direct interdine groundwork for research-based learning and its sof students in the field module.	nd to critically relate these approaches flect on the changes and challenges isciplinary exchange with lecturers. This
engagement with c differentiated and r module is the enga	The module "Research Debates" directly builds on the introductory module. It serves to deepen the students' engagement with current research debates in the thematic area of the programme, and to acquire a differentiated and reflective position on these debates. More specifically, one of the core activities in this module is the engagement with recent scholarship on the concepts of "religion" and "the public sphere" from different theoretical and disciplinary angles.	
Lecture or	Lecture or Seminar (2 SWS)	
4a Participation Requ	Participation Requirements;	
relevant current res	Recommendations We recommend the completion of this module in the second semester in order to be able to incorporate relevant current research debates into the master thesis in the fourth semesters. This module should be studied after the completion of the Introductory Module.	
	Allocation of Credit Points	
l I	ork (e.g. presentation, essay, thesis statement) in the (usually in the seminar)	ne course in which the examination is
	ents: the course in which the course work is not taken on (60 minutes) or oral examination (20 minutes)	(usually in the lecture): written
6 Literature		
7 Further Informatio	n	
	nstitute for the Study of Religion in cooperation with Institute	of Sociology
9 Person responsible Prof. Dr. Wanda Alberts,		

Modu	ıle Title		Module Code	
Meth	Methods			
Degree Course Religion in the Public Sphere			Module Type Compulsory module	
	Points	Frequency of Occurence Every Summer semester	Language English	
	al Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study 2	Module Duration 1 Semester	
Stude	ent Workload			
Total n 300 Ho	r. of hours ours	Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 240 Hours	
Furth	er Use of Module			
1	independenty to specific in sources of data and to criti this model, the students sh	methodological knowledge and skills. Thereby dividual research questions. This includes be cally reflect the potential and limits of differ all show that they are able to work accordin nethods in order to deal with relevant resear	ing able to analyse different kinds and rent methodologies. By completing g to scholarly standards and to apply	
3	Module Contents The module communicates profound competences in methodologies (qualitative and quantitative) of the social and cultural sciences. It aims to lay the methodological groundwork for own research projects and communicates knowledge and competences which are necessary to individually work on a topic in a critical-reflective way. For this reason, methodological questions are discussed and problematised in a broad perspective, including a reflection about which kinds of research questions, sources of data or modes of research are useful in specific contexts – and what kind of limits they imply. The competences that are communicated in this module will be used, leaving room for individual specialisation, in the praxis module and, above all, in the master thesis. Forms of Teaching and Courses			
	Seminar or Lecture (2 SWS)Seminar or Lecture (2 SWS)			
4a	Participation Requirements; Recommendations			
4b		etion of the module in the second semester in	•	
5	Requirements for Allocati	on of Credit Points		
	Course Achievements: • Course work (e.g. not taken	presentation, essay, thesis statement) in the	course in which the examination is	
	term paper (15-2	urse in which the course work is not taken: w D pages) or oral examination (20 minutes) or 30 minutes); details will be announced at the	accompanying exam (e.g.	
6	Literature			
7	Further Information			
8	Organisational Unit Faculty of Humanities, Institute for	or the Study of Religion in cooperation with Institute of	Sociology	

9	Person responsible for module	2			
الم الم	Dr. Ingo Bultmann, Dr. Steffen Führding				
	Module Title Field Module – Home Track Module Code				
Degree Course Religion in the Public Sphere Module Type Required elective module					
Credit 30 CP	Points	Frequency of Occurence Every winter semester	Language English		
Specia	ıl Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester		
Stude	nt Workload		I		
Total n 900 Ho	r. of hours ours	Contact hours 30 Hours	Self study hours / Presence /Examination 870 Hours		
	er Use of Module me Track				
1	Qualification Goals				
2	(b) deepening knowledge research project under In option (a) the students apply and deepen them in particular relevant areas. Thus, they acqui occupations after finishing the In option (b) the students also these on a particular research they conduct individually while prepares them for further acad Module Contents	s in a relevant occupational field and skills in the area of empirical research as r supervision. y the knowledge and skills acquired in their the non academic fields. They learn to establish r ire additional skills and knowledge qualifying ir Masters' degree. apply the knowledge and skills acquired in the project. With the support of a supervisor they e reflecting on their progress and the process emic work after finishing their Masters' degree.	neoretical studies and sharpen networks and gain insight in them for different kinds of eir theoretical studies, applying design a research project which itself. Option (b), therefore,		
	The students may choose one of two options (a) occupational practice (b) research practice				
	Option (a) consists of an intern	ship in a relevant occupational field. dually conducted small research project.			
		udents are supervised by the teaching staff or research practice			
3	Forms of Teaching and Courses a) Internship (minimum of 4 months) under supervision (1 SWS) or b) Research practice (one term) under supervision (1 SWS)				
4a	Participation Requirements; R				
4b	Recommendations				
4 0	We recommend completing the experience for the master thes For those who opt for their ow modules, the module "Research topic for the research project a For those who opt for an internal experience."	e Field Module in the third semester in order to is in the fourth semester. In research project under supervision, we reco in Debates" and the module Methods first in or and to draw from the research skills acquired in this inship, we recommend completing the thematic cquired sufficient skills relevant for non-acad	mmend completing the thematic rder to be able find a relevant in these modules. ic modules and the Introductory		
	I Would make a	equired sufficient skills relevant for non-acad	enne professional environments.		

5	Requirements for Allocation of Credit Points
	Course Achievements:
	placement report respectively research report (10 pages)
	Examination Requirements:
	no examination; this module is ungraded
6	Literature
7	Further Information
8	Organisational Unit
"	Faculty of Humanities, Institute for the Study of Religion
9	Person responsible for module
	Dr. Steffen Führding

Module	Title		Module Code	
	Field Module – Double Degree Track			
	Degree CourseModule TypeReligion in the Public SphereRequired elective module			
Credit Points 10 CP		Frequency of Occurence Every winter semester	Language English	
-	Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study 3	Module Duration 1 Semester	
Student	: Workload			
Total nr. o	f hours: 300 hours	Contact hours: 30 Hours	Self study hours/ Examination/ Presence: 270 Hours	
	Use of Module Degree Track			
1 (Qualification Goals			
I a r c	(d) deepening knowledge research project under n option (a) the students apply and deepen them in particular relevant areas. Thus, they acqui occupations after finishing their n option (b) the students also achese on a particular research properties them for further acade prepares them for further acade	s in a relevant occupational field and skills in the area of empirical research and supervision. the knowledge and skills acquired in their theo non academic fields. They learn to establish netwee additional skills and knowledge qualifying the	retical studies and sharpen works and gain insight in em for different kinds of theoretical studies, applying ssign a research project which	
	Module Contents The students may choose one of two options			
	(c) occupational practice (d) research practice			
	•	ship in a relevant occupational field. lually conducted small research project.		
t	In both options students the students are supervised by the teaching staff of the programme in order to help them critically reflect their experiences (in occupational or research practice) and to support them in their progress.			
3 F	Forms of Teaching and Courses			
	• a) Internship (minimum or	m of 1 month) under supervision (1 SWS)		
	b) Research practice (1 month) under supervision (1 SWS)			
4a F	Participation Requirements; Re	ecommendations		
4b F	Recommendations			
	Requirements for Allocation o	f Credit Points		
C	Course Achievements: • placement report resp	ectively research report (5 pages)		
E	examination Requirements: no examination; this n	nodule is ungraded		

6	Literature	
7	Further Information	
8	Organisational Unit	
	Faculty of Humanities, Institute for the Study of Religion	
9	Person responsible for module	
	Dr. Steffen Führding	

Module Title		Module Code
Window of Mobility		
Degree Course		Module Type
Religion in the Public Sphere		Required elective module
Credit Points	Frequency of Occurence	Language
30 CP	Every winter semester	English
Special Skills Area	Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Student Workload	<u> </u>	
Total nr. of hours 900 Hours	Contact hours depending on receiving institution	Self study hours / Examination depending on receiving institution
Further Use of Module In Home Track and Double Dec	ree Track for Outgoings	

1 Qualification Goals

Students

- deepen their scholary skills in special fields which might not be available at home university;
- learn the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to live and work in the 21st century;
- intellectual growth is exposed to knowledge, concepts, and/or experiences that reflect a different cultural frame of reference, and stimulate students' interest in cross-cultural, international, and comparative learning;
- personal growth, including facilitating the development of confidence and self-reliance, stimulating
 a desire for exploration and trying new things, and expanding students' ability to interact in
 unfamiliar situations are accelerated;
- develop skills for relating to culturally different others in various situations, such as academic settings, social venues, and professional environments, so that they may become aware of cultural differences, reflect upon them, and be comfortable living and working in diverse environments;
- enhance self-awareness and understanding of their own culture by providing opportunities to compare and contrast host country customs, values, and traditions with their own.

Double Degree Track for Outgoings

In addition, students

- reflect on the role of religion and secularity in modern societies as it is studied in different university contexts, where the different specialisations of the partner universities complement each other.
- study the negotiation of religion in the public sphere from different perspectives, reflecting the academic traditions of the partner universities.
- develop skills in performing in varying academic conditions that allocate different tasks and contents to the study of religion.

2 Module Contents

Home Track

Study abroad according to learning agreement

Double Degree Trackfor Outgoings

Study abroad according to the cooperation contract with Università Roma Tre oder der Södertörn Högskola

3 Forms of Teaching and Courses

- Home Track: according to requirements of receiving university
- Double Degree Track for Outgoings: according to cooperation contract

4a Participation Requirements; Recommendations

4b Recommendations

We recommend studying at our partner universities after having completed the Introductory Module, the module "Research Debates", the methods module and the three thematic modules. This will enable students to focus on their master thesis in the fourth semester.

5	Requirements for Allocation of Credit Points
	Course Achievements:
	according to Learning Agreement
	Examination requirements:
	according to Learning Agreement
6	Literature
7	Further Information
8	Organisational Unit
	Faculty of Humanities, Institute for the Study of Religion
9	Person responsible for module
	Home Track: Receiving University
	Double Degree: Cooperating Universities

Module Title			Module Code
	er Thesis		
Degree Course			Module Type
	on in the Public Sphere	1	Compulsory module
Credit Points 30 CP		Frequency of Occurence Every Summer semester	Language English
Special Skills Area		Recommended Semester of Study	Module Duration 1 Semester
Stude	nt Workload		•
Total nr. of hours 900 Hours		Contact hours 60 Hours	Self study hours / Examination 840 Hours
Furth	er Use of Module		
1	Qualification Goals Depending on the individual progress of the students, they supervised to plan the relevant steps of a master thesis with the help of an exposé, which they present in a colloquium, or they are supported in their progress on individual chapters of their theses. The module involves interactive feedback among the students themselves, and between the supervisors and the students, where questions relating to the general design of the theses or outlines of chapters are discussed and commented. Thereby, the students are accompanied by peers and supervisors while they are taking individual responsibility for the progress and success of their theses.		
2	Module Contents The module master thesis comprises the preparation and writing of the master thesis and a colloquium. The topic of the master thesis is agreed upon between the student and the supervisor. Supervision is individual either in German or English. Students in the double degree track have to write their master thesis in English and will have supervision from both the home and the partner university.		
3	Forms of Teaching and Courses • Colloquium (2 SWS)		
4a	Participation Requirements; Recommendations		
4b	Recommendations We recommend the completion of all required modules before the module Master Thesis is taken.		
5	Requirements for Allocation of Credit Points		
	Course Achievements: • no course work		
	Examination requirements: • master thesis (80 pages)		
6	Literature		
7	Further Information		
8	Organisational Unit Faculty of Humanities, Institute for the Study of Religion		
9	Person responsible for module Prof. Dr. Wanda Alberts		