

**SYLLABUS**  
*Seminar in Religious Studies*

<b>CURRICULUM</b>	<b>Theology, Master of Arts</b>
<b>NAME OF THE SUBJECT</b>	<b><i>Seminar in Religious Studies</i></b>
<b>CODE</b>	UTII/1.02.02
<b>VOLUME</b>	3 ECTS
<b>LECTURER</b>	Jaan Lahe
<b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE</b>	To learn to know and understand the methods and theories of religious studies.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	On completion of the course student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He knows the history of religious studies and its sub-disciplines (history of religion, anthropology of religion, sociology of religion, etc.);</li> <li>• He knows the terminology of religious studies;</li> <li>• He knows the theories of religious studies and also knows their historical and epistemological background;</li> <li>• Can analyze religions and religious phenomena according to different methods and theories.</li> </ul>
<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT, MAIN TOPICS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of Religious Studies: from the philosophy of religion to the religious studies;</li> <li>• Deciphering unknown cultures;</li> <li>• The presence of the original religion in modern civilization;</li> <li>• On the origin of all social obligations: the ritual of sacrifice;</li> <li>• Religion and magic;</li> <li>• Religion as identity creating force: religion and ethnicity;</li> <li>• The psychological aspects of religion: religion as experience of the self;</li> <li>• Religion and its role in society.</li> <li>• Religion as a cultural system.</li> </ul>
<b>PREREQUISITE SUBJECTS</b>	Introduction to the Religious Studies and World Religions.
<b>EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE, TEACHING MATERIALS</b>	Compulsory literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kippenberg, Hans G., Von Stuckrad, Kocku, <i>Sissejuhatus religiooniuringutusse</i>. Tartu 2021.</li> <li>• Hess, Beth B., Markson, Elisabeth W., Stein, Peter J., <i>Sotsioloogia</i>. Tallinn 2000, pp. 194-201.</li> <li>• Annist, Aet, Kaaristo, Maarja (ed.), <i>Sotsiaal- ja kultuuriantropoloogia</i>. Tallinn 2017, pp. 145-170.</li> <li>• Honko, Lauri, Pentikäinen, Juha, <i>Kultuuriantropoloogia</i>. Tallinn 1997, pp. 65-89.</li> <li>• Frazer, James George, <i>Kuldne oks</i>. Tartu 2001.</li> <li>• Eliade, Mircea, <i>Uurimus usundiloost</i>. Tartu 2017.</li> <li>• Eliade, Mircea. "Sakraalne ja profaanne." - <i>Vikerkaar</i> 4-12/1992.</li> <li>• Assmann, Jan, <i>Egiptlane Mooses</i>. Tallinn 2017.</li> <li>• Malinowski, <i>Maagia, teadus ja religioon</i>. Tartu 2020.</li> <li>• Mary Douglas, <i>Puhtus ja oht</i>. Tallinn 2015.</li> <li>• Weber, Max, <i>Võimu ja religioonisotsioloogist</i>. Tartu 2002.</li> <li>• James, William, <i>Usulise kogemuse mitmekesisus</i>. Tartu 2013.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith, Wilfred Cantwell, <i>Religiooni tähendus ja ots</i>. Tartu 2020.</li> </ul> <p>Recommended literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kippenberg, Hans G. <i>Discovering Religious History in the Modern Age</i>. Princeton and Oxford 2002.</li> <li>• Baumann, Gerd. <i>The Multicultural Riddle. Rethinking National, Ethnic, and Religious Identities</i>. London 1999.</li> <li>• Asad, Talal. <i>Genealogies of Religion</i>. Baltimore &amp; London 1993.</li> <li>• Geertz, Clifford. <i>Kultuuride tõlgendamine</i>. Tallinn 2017.</li> <li>• Stark, Rodney, Bainbridge, Williams Sims. <i>A Theorie of Religion</i>. New York 1987.</li> </ul>
<b>TEACHING METHODS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contact-based study: lecture 12 hours.</li> <li>• independent assignments based on compulsory and recommended literature, preparation of written assignments 84 hours.</li> <li>• contact-based study: presenting one's written assignments in the seminar 4 hours.</li> <li>• examination 4 hours.</li> </ul>
<b>ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• written assignments about topics of religious studies. Topics are selected from the broader spectrum of descriptions presented on the subject card or from the narrower spectrum of issues presented in the teaching materials. The assignments are presented orally at seminars.</li> <li>• oral examination.</li> </ul>
<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Written assignments are assessed according to the non-differentiated criteria. Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paragraphs and subtitles of the paper correspond to the title;</li> <li>• the content of the paper is presented in an understandable manner;</li> <li>• the layout of the paper corresponds to the requirements of layout of a short paper;</li> <li>• a student who presents the paper in the seminar has learnt the subject.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Examination is assessed according to the differentiated criteria. Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• historical and literary facts of the subject are acquired;</li> <li>• Can adequately present different methods and theories and analyze them.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>