ANTH3021
Globalisation, Conflict, and Religion
Session 1, Special circumstances, North Ryde 2021
Macquarie School of Social Sciences

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Notice
As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit’s iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.
# General Information

**Unit convenor and teaching staff**

Chris Houston  
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[chris.vasantkumar@mq.edu.au](mailto:chris.vasantkumar@mq.edu.au)

**Credit points**

10

**Prerequisites**

130cp at 1000 level or above

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**

**Unit description**

Mass communications, technological advances, and the transnational mobility of individuals are powerful forces for cultural change in the contemporary world. For anthropology, the globalisation thesis raises important questions about culture, religion and about the question of how violence and its control has changed in a global world. How are we to understand cultures, religious movements and ideologies, previously understood as bounded entities? How might we theorise the relationship between local and global events, such as conflicts, terrorism and violence? This course will introduce students to the field of anthropology and its sub-disciplines through the discussion of these questions that anthropologists investigate in contemporary and past societies. Some of the issues explored in this course include; religion and worldview, religion in relation to globalisation, power and inequality, violence and conflict, and the formation of new religious movements. We will look at the 'speeding-up' of the world in terms of our experience of time and space, and we will consider the possibility of alternative or parallel modernities.

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# Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

# Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

**ULO1:** Critically analyse and debate complex social-political issues.
ULO2: Conduct comparative research on the role of social settings and norms in shaping culture and politics in a globalised context.

ULO3: Actively reflect on debates about anthropology of religion and globalisation.

ULO4: Investigate from an anthropological viewpoint the complex dynamics that affect religious conflicts and violence within global contexts.

ULO5: Improve writing and critical reading skills.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take-home exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Open 28 May-4 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>21 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay Plan</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>23 April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Take-home exam

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: Open 28 May-4 Jun
Weighting: 30%

Take-home exam testing understanding of the unit material. Students will be given 4-6 questions and asked to provide 200-250 word responses to each question.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Conduct comparative research on the role of social settings and norms in shaping culture and politics in a globalised context.
- Investigate from an anthropological viewpoint the complex dynamics that affect religious conflicts and violence within global contexts.

Participation

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 20%

Student’s participation in the tutorial discussions
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse and debate complex social-political issues.
- Actively reflect on debates about anthropology of religion and globalisation.
- Improve writing and critical reading skills.

**Final Essay**

**Assessment Type**: Essay  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 25 hours  
**Due**: 21 May  
**Weighting**: 40%

Students will write an essay of approximately 2000 words on a self-select topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse and debate complex social-political issues.
- Conduct comparative research on the role of social settings and norms in shaping culture and politics in a globalised context.
- Actively reflect on debates about anthropology of religion and globalisation.
- Investigate from an anthropological viewpoint the complex dynamics that affect religious conflicts and violence within global contexts.
- Improve writing and critical reading skills.

**Essay Plan**

**Assessment Type**: Plan  
**Indicative Time on Task**: 15 hours  
**Due**: 23 April  
**Weighting**: 10%

Essay plan sketching out the themes of the Final essay.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Investigate from an anthropological viewpoint the complex dynamics that affect religious conflicts and violence within global contexts.
- Improve writing and critical reading skills.

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1 If you need help with your assignment, please contact:  
- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment  
- the [Learning Skills Unit](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/138954/unit_guide/print) for academic skills support.
Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

**Delivery and Resources**

All required readings will be available electronically on iLearn or via other online sources. See unit iLearn page for further details.

For lecture and tutorial times and classrooms please consult the MQ Timetable website: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au. This website will display up-to-date information on your classes and classroom locations. Tutorial locations sometimes change in the days before class. Be sure to check. This session unless COVID requires changes we will have a mix of face-to-face and zoom tutes; make sure you sign up for the right kind of tute. Tutorials start the first week of class.

The lectures will be one of your primary sources of material for this unit. We bring together a range of concepts from a variety of sources, present the central theories and ideas, model anthropological thinking, adapt the material to your background, integrate contemporary events, and provide a framework to help make sense of the readings. It is unlikely that you will pass this class if you focus on the readings and tutorials alone.

The lectures cover essential and interesting unit material and you really should listen to them to get the most out of the unit. The take-home final will be largely based on material covered in lecture (and tutorials). Lectures will be uploaded to the unit iLearn page each week by the conclusion of the scheduled lecture time via zoom, echo360 or other similar program. You must listen to each week’s lecture (and complete any required reading) prior to attending your tutorial.

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>Introduction to Course Themes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Mar</td>
<td>Intro to Globalization</td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>Religion and Nationalism</td>
<td></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>16 Mar</td>
<td>Trans-Nationalism and Religion</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>23 Mar</td>
<td>Global Christianity in the Contemporary World</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>30 Mar</td>
<td>Religion and Capitalism</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Mid-semester Recess: 5 Apr-16 Apr</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>20 Apr</td>
<td>Religion and Human Rights</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central ([https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central)). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Academic Appeals Policy**
- **Academic Integrity Policy**
- **Academic Progression Policy**
- **Assessment Policy**
- **Fitness to Practice Procedure**
- **Grade Appeal Policy**
- **Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public**
- **Special Consideration Policy** *(Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway ([https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway)). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central ([http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central)).
Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/138954/unit_guide/print
When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.