



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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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.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-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

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Take-home exam	30%	No	Open 28 May-4 Jun
Participation	20%	No	Weekly
Final Essay	40%	No	21 May
Essay Plan	10%	No	23 April

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 ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 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 ¹: Plan

Indicative Time on Task ²: 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.

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 [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² 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

Week	Date	Lecture	Assessment
1	23 Feb	Introduction to Course Themes	
2	2 Mar	Intro to Globalization	
3	9 Mar	Religion and Nationalism	
4	16 Mar	Trans-Nationalism and Religion	
5	23 Mar	Global Christianity in the Contemporary World	
6	30 Mar	Religion and Capitalism	
		Mid-semester Recess: 5 Apr-16 Apr	
7	20 Apr	Religion and Human Rights	

	23 Apr		Essay Plan Due
8	27 Apr	Orientalism and Islamophobia	
9	4 May	Case Study: White Nationalism and Religious Extremism	
10	11 May	Case Study: China and Tibet	
11	18 May	Case Study: Religion and Conflict in Contemporary Australia	
	21 May		Major Essay Due
12	25 May	Governing Religion: Secularism, Laicism, and Theocracy	
	28 May		Take Home Final Opens
13	1 Jun	Course Review	
	4 Jun		Take Home Final Closes

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit <ask.mq.edu.au> or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

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 Services and 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.

Student Enquiries

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

IT Help

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

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.