COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: Combined Studies

FHEQ **Level:**   5

Course Title: Magic, Religion & Witchcraft

Course Code: SCL 5105

Course Leader: Alex Seago

Student Engagement Hours: 120
Lectures: 22.5
Seminars/Tutorials: 22.5
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
 6 ECTS credits
 3 US credits

Course Description:
This course focuses on sociological and anthropological perspectives on religious practice and experience. Classical theorists Marx, Weber and Durkheim will be examined. Notions of Magic, Witchcraft and the Supernatural will be addressed in relation to Myth and Symbolism. 'New Age' spirituality will be analysed in relation to Altered States of Consciousness and Counterculture and alternative versions of 'Faith'.

Prerequisites: SCL 3100 or COM 3100

Aims and Objectives:
The aim of this course is to provide a critical overview of the main theoretical perspectives in the sociology of religion and evaluates their relevance in analyzing faith and spirituality in a emerging global society. The objective is to understand religion and spirituality in a multi-faith and increasingly globalized and mediated society.

Programme Outcomes:

A5(i); A5(ii);B5(i);B5(ii);B5(iii);C5(i);C5(ii);C5(iii);D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
- Detailed understanding of culturally diverse approaches to spirituality.
- Detailed understanding of key theoretical approaches to subject matter.
- Critical engagement with major thinkers and intellectual paradigms from an historical perspective.
- Detailed understanding of relevance of subject matter in changing contemporary multicultural contexts.
- Completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:
- Definitions of religion
- Major sociological approaches to religion
- Major anthropological approaches to religion
- Occultism
- Counterculture and religion
- 'New Age' spirituality

Assessment:
This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:
The course will combine lectures, seminar discussions, and audio-visual screenings.

Bibliography:
See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):

Dawson, A. *Sociology of Religion (2011, SCM Press)*

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

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Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry