



Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2023/2024

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 20 hours

COURSE TITLE

Laboratory of Sciences of Religions II

TEACHING PERIOD

2nd term

SCIENTIFIC AREA

History and Philosophy of Religions

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH

Italian

COURSE SUMMARY

A cycle of lectures on the interdisciplinary theme of Religions, science and philosophy. In recent decades, the interest of experimental scientific disciplines in the religious phenomenon has grown enormously. First of all, the study of the Darwinian evolution process as a possible element capable of influencing the formation of a "religious mens" that can be investigated, from the point of view of the study of behavior, like all other behaviors, sometimes shared with other non-human animal species. Secondly, the contrasted relationship between the "hard" sciences and religions, in the moment in which their teachings cross and sometimes overlap. Furthermore, the awakening of a philosophical and epistemological debate on categories that are difficult to define, in particular those of religion, science and pseudoscience, produces new attempts to distinguish between the different categories (the so-called "demarcation problem").

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This proposal of an interdisciplinary nature would make it possible to bring together different approaches to the religious phenomenon: first of all the historical one, which provides a documentary and experiential basis for investigation; the philosophical one, a fundamental element of our degree course; and the scientific one, normally absent in our teachings. This course would provide a suitable space for all students to be able to profitably come into contact with these important prospects for investigation; in fact, they hardly form part of the curricular teaching of the subjects envisaged by the ministerial schemes and career plans.

TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES

N/A

LAB ACTIVITIES

N/A

OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE

N/A

VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE

A person with a high qualification about philosophy of science and theory of pseudoscience, relationships about religion and faith, and religious studies from the evolutionary point of view.

CONTACT REFERENT

Andrea Nicolotti
andrea.nicolotti@unito.it