

SOCI 310

Course Title: Religion in Society

Instructor: Dr. Edwin Hodge

Course Description:

What is religion? How is religion understood, according to sociologists, and how *should* religion be understood? These questions will serve as foundations for an inquiry into religion as a social institution. In this course, we will analyze the history of religious movements, organizations, and experiences in Western societies. We will examine the social origins of religious institutions and strive to understand the impact that religion has had – and continues to have – on Canadian and other Western societies. Course topics will also include violence and extremism, counter-religious movements and new religious debates, socio-political dimensions of religious practices, and intersections of race, gender, class and religious experience.

Required Resources May Include:

There will be a textbook (title to be determined), as well as academic articles, YouTube videos, and other materials that will be assigned throughout the semester.

Course assessments will include written exams and a research paper.