

## Religious pluralism in modern India

04.05.2020-13.07.2020

Mo. 16:15-17:45

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Beatrice Renzi

beatrice.renzi@uni-erfurt.de

### Content

1. Course Description
2. Course Requirements
3. Schedule

### 1. Course Description

This on-line seminar will provide an overview of the landscape that makes up the plurality of religious traditions and cultures in India, spanning the families of religions, which have come to be included under the terms Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism as well as diverse indigenous religions. The aim is to offer a broad contextualization of key developments defining the changing interrelations between different religious traditions in India, shedding light on their composite strands as well as on some of their fundamentalist articulations.

This is an introductory course, which does not require prior knowledge of the subject matter. Assignments can be provided in English or German as per individual preferences.

### 2. Course Requirements

Course requirements vary for 3 LP and 6 LP, as follows: Participants taking the course for 3 LP will be expected to submit one essay and a written presentation (e.g. PowerPoint). In addition to these requirements, participants taking the course for 6 LP will also be expected to submit a final paper at the end of the semester.

The essay will be based on questions and materials defined by the instructor and will be the same for all course participants. In addition, all participants will investigate a topic of their choice from a list of possible themes provided by the instructor. To this end, everyone will be required to prepare a presentation including an introductory overview of the chosen topic, an outline of key questions, as well as a brief literature review. This entails a summary of

selected texts from the suggested readings. Participants taking the course for 6 LP will then further develop the chosen topic into their final paper.

For the above assignments, it is important to double-check your writing in terms of clarity, accuracy and length, besides spelling and grammar. The papers and written presentations are due via e-mail to the instructor on the given deadline (s. following schedule). Presentations can be prepared in groups of two to three students or as individual assignments.

### 3. Schedule

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activities/Deadlines</b>
By 04.05.20	All interested participants to notify the instructor (beatrice.renzi@uni-erfurt.de) via email.
05.05.20	The access code for the Moodle course room will be emailed to all interested participants. In the Moodle course room, you will find an overview of themes for the presentations with the suggested literature, relevant documents as well as the names and email addresses of the other participants.
11.05.20, 4:15 PM	Videoconference with all course participants to clarify questions and concerns. Prior to the conference, you will receive a link, which will allow you to access the virtual conference room.
By 18.05.20	Presentation topic, work plan and names of co-presenter(s), if relevant, to be emailed to instructor. The work plan will have to include an indication of sources for the literature review and the person assigned to review each source.
25.05.20	Essay questions will be emailed to all course participants.
08.06.20, 4:15 PM	Videoconference with all participants on questions concerning the presentations and the essay.
By 22.06.20	Essay to be submitted via email to the instructor.
29.06.20, 4:15 PM	Videoconference with all participants to discuss remaining questions related to the presentations.

By 06.07.20	Presentations to be submitted via email to the instructor.
13.07.20, 4:15 PM	Videoconference with all participants to discuss feedback on submitted assignments and questions concerning the final papers.
By 27.07.20	Final papers to be submitted via email to the instructor.