

# SOC M212: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

**Originator**

dvieira

**Co-Contributor(s)**
**Name(s)**

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**College**

Moorpark College

**Discipline (CB01A)**

SOC - Sociology

**Course Number (CB01B)**

M212

**Course Title (CB02)**

Introduction to Sociology of Religion

**Banner/Short Title**

Intro to Soc of Religion

**Credit Type**

Credit

**Start Term**

Fall 2022

**Catalog Course Description**

Explores the foundational role religion plays in influencing beliefs values, laws and practices in society. Introduces the student to Sociological concepts in the study of religious life via examples from world religions practiced in the United States and elsewhere. Examines how social changes affect religious life in society.

**Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)**

2208.00 - Sociology

**Course Credit Status (CB04)**

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

**Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)**

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

**Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)**

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

**SAM Priority Code (CB09)**

E - Non-Occupational

**Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**Course Classification Status (CB11)**

Y - Credit Course

**Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Course Noncredit Category (CB22)**

Y - Credit Course

**Funding Agency Category (CB23)**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**Course Program Status (CB24)**

1 - Program Applicable

**General Education Status (CB25)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Support Course Status (CB26)**

N - Course is not a support course

**Field trips**

Will not be required

**Grading method**

(L) Letter Graded

**Alternate grading methods**

(O) Student Option- Letter/Pass

(P) Pass/No Pass Grading

**Does this course require an instructional materials fee?**

No

**Repeatable for Credit**

No

**Is this course part of a family?**

No

**Units and Hours**

**Carnegie Unit Override**

No

**In-Class**

**Lecture**

**Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Activity**

**Laboratory**

**Total in-Class**

**Total in-Class**

**Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Outside-of-Class****Internship/Cooperative Work Experience**

Paid

Unpaid

**Total Outside-of-Class****Total Outside-of-Class****Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Total Student Learning****Total Student Learning****Total Minimum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Total Maximum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Minimum Units (CB07)**

3

**Maximum Units (CB06)**

3

**Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)****Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | analyze the socializing effects of religion on society.   |
| 2 | explain how intersectional issues that produce social inequality (eg. class, race, gender, sexuality, etc) affect religious expectations in groups. |
| 3 | identify social changes that bring about increased or decreased levels of religiosity in US society and elsewhere.                                  |

**Course Objectives****Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | examine religion as a primary socializing influence in society.  |
| 2  | identify the core beliefs of the major world religions which have helped shape social life in the United States. |
| 3  | compare and contrast the major world religions in terms of both belief and practice.                             |
| 4  | examine sociological theories as they apply to the study of religion.  |
| 5  | evaluate the effect of religion on society and the effect of society on religion.                                |
| 6  | discuss the various explanations for the existence of religious belief and practice.                             |
| 7  | analyze the relationship between religion and cultural views on gender, ethnicity and social class.              |
| 8  | analyze religious world views using examples from various religious groups and bodies in the United States.      |
| 9  | analyze the role of religion in matters of social cohesion and social conflict.                                  |
| 10 | examine the complex relationship between religion and science.   |
| 11 | explain the role of religion in shaping world events.  |
| 12 | evaluate the changing role of religion in United States society today.   |

## Course Content

### Lecture/Course Content

- 5.00% Religion as a group phenomenon
- 6.00% Religious socialization
- 5.00% Religion as a social organization
- 15.00% Religion, ethnicity, gender and social class
- 5.00% Differences between church, sect and New Religious Movement (formerly *cult*)
- 6.00% Religious social cohesion and conflict
- 6.00% Science and religion
- 6.00% Values and religion
- 6.00% Exploring purpose and belonging in religion
- 5.00% Religious views about the nature of mankind and God/gods
- 15.00% Religion and world issues
- 5.00% The future of religion
- 10.00% Sociological perspectives on religion
- 5.00% Sources of religion and history of religion in America

### Laboratory or Activity Content

n/a

## Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):

Written expression

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):

- Essay exams
- Group projects
- Individual projects
- Journals
- Objective exams
- Oral presentations
- Quizzes
- Reports/papers
- Research papers
- Classroom Discussion
- Projects
- Participation
- Reports/Papers/Journals

## Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course

- Audio-visual presentations
- Class activities
- Class discussions
- Collaborative group work
- Computer-aided presentations
- Distance Education
- Group discussions
- Guest speakers
- Instructor-guided use of technology
- Internet research
- Lecture
- Small group activities
- Other (specify)

Specify other method of instruction

Instructor-led group discussions.

**Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:**

- class lectures with possible PowerPoint presentations and/or audio-video presentations
- group work
- group presentation with feed-back from the professor
- socratic discussions
- group quizzes
- student-led presentations with feed-back from the professor

**Representative Course Assignments****Writing Assignments**

create a paper that compares and contrasts the world views of major religions in the United States.

prepare a written assignment that compares and contrasts the views of major religious figures, such as Jesus, the Buddha, the Prophet Mohammed, Confucius, etc, across different religious traditions.

write a sociological research paper on a sect within a major religion.

examine the reasons that many in the United States are leaving organized faith for a more personalized spiritual path, or no spiritual life at all.

**Critical Thinking Assignments**

Prepare a written assignment that compares and contrasts differing religions in terms of what each says in their religion's text about how one is to treat others living in their communities.

Prepare a written assignment that compares and contrasts examine why people are attracted to New Religious Movements in lieu of more traditional forms of faith and how this is related to social change.

Prepare a written assignment that analyzes the reasons for a shift in religious belief in Western society to a more micro-level, personal kind of spirituality rather than member-based religion in a religious organization.

**Reading Assignments**

Textbook chapter assignments

News articles from valid sources (print and online) which address worldviews of major religions in the United States

Journals of Sociology and related disciplines (Psychology, Criminology, Cultural Anthropology, Communications, among others)

Primary texts from Sociology authors and theorists, newsletters and websites of Sociological and related fields (American Sociological Association for example)

**Outside Assignments****Representative Outside Assignments**

Visit houses of worship of several different religious groups, and write an essay about the experience.

Read periodical articles concerning the inter-relationships of religion and society.

Read sacred texts, religious writings, and other sources for the sociological analysis of religion.

**Articulation****Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions**

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
UC Santa Barbara	RG ST 7	Intro to American Religion	4
UC Irvine	SOCIOL 56	Society and Religion	4

**Equivalent Courses at other CCCs**

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Cypress College	Soc 277 C	Sociology of Religion	3
Mt San Antonio College	SOC 7	Sociology of Religion	3
Fullerton College	SOC 277 C	Sociology of Religion	3

## **District General Education**

### **A. Natural Sciences**

### **B. Social and Behavioral Sciences**

#### **B2. Social and Behavioral Sciences**

Approved

### **C. Humanities**

### **D. Language and Rationality**

### **E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology**

### **F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies**

Course is CSU transferable

Yes

CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:

F2008

## **CSU GE-Breadth**

### **Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking**

### **Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning**

### **Area C: Arts and Humanities**

### **Area D: Social Sciences**

#### **D Social Sciences**

Approved

### **Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development**

### **Area F: Ethnic Studies**

## **CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:**

## **UC TCA**

UC TCA

Approved

## **IGETC**

### **Area 1: English Communication**

### **Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning**

### **Area 3: Arts and Humanities**

### **Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

#### **Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

Approved

## Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

## Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

### Textbooks and Lab Manuals

#### Resource Type

Textbook

#### Description

Monahan, Susanne, William A. Mirola, and Michael O. Emerson, eds. *Sociology of Religion: A Reader*. 3rd ed., Routledge, 2018.

#### Resource Type

Textbook

#### Description

Pals, Daniel. *Ten Theories of Religion*. 4th ed., Oxford UP, 2021.

#### Resource Type

Textbook

#### Description

Roberts, Keith and David Yamane. *Religion in Sociological Perspective*. 7th ed., SAGE, 2020.

#### Resource Type

Other Instructional Materials

#### Description

Berger, Peter. *The Sacred Canopy: Elements of a Sociological Theory of Religion*. Open Road Media, 2011.

## Library Resources

### Assignments requiring library resources

Research papers, extra credit reports and PowerPoint presentation development using the Library's print and online resources on topics such as how the three religions have influenced culture in the United States.

### Sufficient Library Resources exist

Yes

### Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

Research paper on various religious groups in the United States, and how they integrate members into their congregation.

## Distance Education Addendum

### Definitions

#### Distance Education Modalities

Hybrid (1%–50% online)  
100% online

### Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

## Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

### Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Regular discussion boards will be used to encourage discussions amongst students where they can compare and contrast/discuss/analyze sociological topics involving such topics as social class, race and ethnicity, sex and gender, and other sociological topics.
E-mail	Instructor-to-student and student-to-instructor contact for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Face to Face (by student request; cannot be required)	Face-to-face meetings with students as needed by student request outside of classroom for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Internet websites, videos, recorded lectures, PowerPoint presentations, lecture notes
Synchronous Dialog (e.g., online chat)	Online office hours or online group discussions
Telephone	One-on-one meetings with students by request for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Video Conferencing	One-on-one meetings with students by request, online office hours

### 100% online Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Regular discussion boards will be used to encourage discussions amongst students where they can compare and contrast/discuss/analyze sociological topics involving such topics as social class, race and ethnicity, sex and gender, and other sociological topics.
E-mail	Instructor-to-student and student-to-instructor contact for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Face to Face (by student request; cannot be required)	Face-to-face meetings with students as needed by student request outside of classroom for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Internet websites, videos, recorded lectures, PowerPoint presentations, lecture notes
Synchronous Dialog (e.g., online chat)	Online office hours or online group discussions
Telephone	One-on-one meetings with students by request for clarification, questions, and student progress reports
Video Conferencing	One-on-one meetings with students by request, online office hours

## Examinations

### Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality

On campus  
Online

### Primary Minimum Qualification

SOCIOLOGY



## Review and Approval Dates

**Department Chair**

01/31/2022

**Dean**

01/31/2022

**Technical Review**

02/03/2022

**Curriculum Committee**

02/15/2022

**DTRW-I**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Curriculum Committee**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Board**

MM/DD/YYYY

**CCCCO**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Control Number**

CCC000500333

**DOE/accreditation approval date**

MM/DD/YYYY