

Titel: Selected Topics in International Relations II: Religion and World Politics	
Art der Veranstaltung: Hauptseminar	Angeboten im: Frühjahrssemester 2014

Kursbeschreibung:

In recent decades religion seems to have resurfaced as an important factor influencing world politics. Ethnic and religious conflicts, fundamentalist terrorism, religious influences on peace negotiations, and many more issues are now at the heart of political discourse and policy-making discussions. However, mainstream International Relations (IR) theories, such as Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism, provide us little guidance on how to conceptualize and study religion in world politics. This seminar offers a synoptic overview of the themes, issues, and cases in an attempt to advance the theoretical understanding of religion in world politics. The lectures will discuss questions such as: (1) Is there a global resurgence of religion or was it just neglected academically? (2) How should we understand and study religion? (3) What role does religion play in conflict and peace? These questions and more will encourage the students to think critically about the role of religion in world politics. The course will be conducted in English.