

Foundation Course on Religion
Unit 1
ACADEMIC STUDY OF RELIGION

1. Religion, a Global Human Activity

Right from the dawn of human consciousness, religion has asked the deepest questions humans can think about. Through the ages, it has been shaping politics, law, history, economics, science and arts. It has taken a central place in the lives of all civilizations and cultures.

While modern insights from a wide range of scientific disciplines have changed our view of the world, religion persists in variety and is often on the rise. We find it everywhere: on television and in film, music, art, literature and architecture. Our calendars are dotted with religious festivals. We encounter religion at the centre of global issues, cultural and political conflicts. We see it in the lives of the people we know and love, and in ourselves, as we live out and grapple with our own religious faith.

Scholars of religious studies do acknowledge that the struggle for religious freedom and beliefs had a complex and controversial history for centuries. It had often led to tragic conflicts and bloodshed in many parts of the world. At the same time, they also remind us that religion accounts for profound thoughts and intense spiritual experiences humanity ever had. It inspires believers to incredible commitment to human welfare – to forthright altruistic action even at the cost of one's own life. The American Academy of Religion (AAR), world's largest association of renowned scholars from all over the world in the field of religious studies, comments: "For both practitioners and observers – for everyone who wants to be informed about the world around them – religion is an intensely curious phenomenon that calls out for better understanding."¹

1.1. Academic study of religion

The academic study of religion – also known as religious studies – teaches the history, scripture, creed, code, cult, and community organization of faith communities as well as their reinterpretations over time. It is founded on the premise that religion, each in its own unique way, has always had a deep influence to the growth of civilizations and cultures. Hence all religions are treated with equal respect, and they are approached collectively as a rich subject for academic study.

The origin of the academic study of religion as we have today in many universities across the world began with the 19th century encounters that took place between renowned western and eastern scholars of religion. They were instrumental to introduce religion as part of liberal arts in centres of higher education. Their aim was to preserve and promote the rich spiritual, moral and cultural values found in the religious traditions for human advancement.

Religious Studies Research Report

**Martin Rothgangel, Robert
Jackson, Martin Jäggle**



Religious Studies Research Report:

Research in Religious Education Leslie J. Francis, William K. Kay, William S. Campbell, 1996 Office of Education Research Reports, 1956-65 Educational Research Information Center (U.S.), 1967 Office of Education Research Reports, 1956-1965 United States. Office of Education, Educational Research Information Center (U.S.), 1967 Office of Education Research Reports Educational Resources Information Center (U.S.), 1967 Office of Education Research Reports, 1956-65, ED 002 747-ED 003 960 Educational Research Information Center (U.S.), 1967 **The Empirical Science of Religious Education** Mandy Robbins, Leslie Francis, 2016-01-22 The Empirical Science of Religious Education draws together a collection of innovative articles in the field of religious education which passed the editorial scrutiny of Professor Robert Jackson over the course of his impactful fourteen year career as editor of the British Journal of Religious Education These articles have made an enormous contribution to the international literature establishing of the empirical science of religious education as a research field The volume draws together organises and illustrates the contours of this emerging field and is an essential compendium which covers work in teacher education and teacher experience student understanding attitudes and values varieties of religious schooling and worldview and life interpretation Organised into ten thematic sections the contributors cover the field comprehensively and bring with them an international and reflexive approach to their research It is an essential resource for those practitioners and researchers who wish to access original and innovative research undertaken by way of ethnographic fieldwork practitioner research life history approaches to research psychological scales and measures and large surveys Particularly interested readers will be studying PGCE and masters level programmes in religious education as well as qualified religious educators undertaking continuing professional development Rethinking Religious Education and Plurality Robert Jackson, 2013-02 This book offers a critical view of approaches to the treatment of different religions in contemporary education in order to devise approaches to teaching and learning and to formulate policies and procedures that are fair and just to all *Resources in Education* ,1998 Research in Education ,1969

Debates in Religious Education L. Philip Barnes, 2023-08-10 This essential book provides a comprehensive introduction to current debates in religious education Exploring the rich variety of opinions and ideas that constitute and impact upon religious education both novice and experienced teachers will benefit from deepening their theoretical knowledge and understanding through reading *Debates in Religious Education* This second edition has fully updated all chapters and included an additional thirteen new contributions providing a provocative yet informative introduction to current debates and allowing teachers to reach informed decisions about how they approach this subject Responding to recent controversy and challenging assumptions about the place of religion in education expert contributors cover key topics such as The aims of religious education Religious education in the United Kingdom and Ireland Agreed syllabuses and the role of Standing Advisory Councils Educational issues such as the right of withdrawal collective worship and faith schools

Teaching and learning in religious education Multi faith religious education Relating science and religion With its combination of expert opinion and fresh insight this essential text is the ideal companion for any student or practising teacher engaged in initial training continuing professional development or Master s level study **Learning to Teach Citizenship in the Secondary School** Liam Gearon,2014-11-26 Praise for previous editions A comprehensive and illuminating resource on both citizenship and citizenship education David Hicks Times Educational Supplement What is the role of citizenship How can it be taught effectively Learning to Teach Citizenship in the Secondary School is an essential resource for students training to teach citizenship in the secondary school as well as teachers of citizenship looking for fresh ideas and guidance Written by leading experts in the field the book is underpinned by the latest research and theory and explores a variety of inspirational approaches to teaching and learning in a subject which provides a critical underpinning to the whole school curriculum This new third edition has been comprehensively updated and restructured to emphasise the role of citizenship across the curriculum exploring a wider range of subjects including geography modern foreign languages mathematics and science Key topics include historical origins and contemporary contexts developing subject knowledge and skills of enquiry effective lesson plans schemes of work and assessment citizenship beyond the classroom community based work and learning outdoors citizenship across the curriculum English drama and media history geography and religious education modern foreign languages mathematics and science and RE research in citizenship Including key objectives and chapter summaries together with carefully developed tasks to support your own professional development Learning to Teach Citizenship in the Secondary School is designed to develop theoretically informed good practice in citizenship education It is a source of support guidance and creative ideas for all training citizenship teachers and those teaching the subject as non specialists and offers specialists new insight into this crucial subject *Religious Studies in Alberta* Ronald Neufeldt,2006-01-01 This first volume on the state of the art in religious studies in Canada offers a description and critique of the field in the colleges universities and secondary schools in Alberta Among the findings philosophical theological and textual approaches to the study of religion predominate to the relative neglect of methodologies employed in fields such as sociology and anthropology the quality and quantity of published research is significant but focusses on Christian studies some interdisciplinary study is being carried on and benefits religious studies as well as other fields religious studies scholars in Alberta have a relatively high public profile but their exercise of public responsibility is time consuming and can jeopardize career advancement in view of wide spread religious illiteracy among students descriptive courses must not be neglected in favour of analytical ones An appendix listing courses offered in the schools surveyed concludes the volume **MasterClass in Religious Education** Liam Gearon,2013-03-28 A comprehensive guide to religious education ensuring a solid foundation for supporting effective learning and teaching **Religious Education 5-11** Imran Mogra,2022-10-12 Religious Education has returned in the limelight of education Religious Education 5 11 deals with present day debates and issues at the heart of

this important subject It provides a systematic holistic and unified guidance on teaching RE in primary school The guide features vignettes case studies extracts and viewpoints from experts for deeper engagement Religious Education 5 11 offers ample guidance and suggestions for the classroom The main areas covered include Historical legal and contemporary perspectives What is RE about Aims purposes and the field of enquiry RE in the Early Years Key Stages 1 and 2 Knowledge in RE Concepts attitudes skills dispositions and SMSC Planning and structuring the curriculum Theories classical and contemporary pedagogies and multidisciplinary approaches Assessment and progression Subject leadership and the thriving community Research and lifelong learning in RE This book is an indispensable resource for all student educators early career teachers and classroom practitioners interested in teaching Religious Education in an ambitious contemporary and challenging way

Catalog of Copyright Entries. Third Series Library of Congress. Copyright Office,1960 Includes Part 1 Number 1 Books and Pamphlets Including Serials and Contributions to Periodicals January June *Academic Research and Writing in Theology and Religious Studies* Longwe, Hany,2016-03-17 The aim of this book is to empower students carry out research and write better dissertations with confidence The book has been produced to provide students with the basic information needed to understand the theological and religious research process from the idea stage to the production and submission of a dissertation It is expected that the work will satisfy the needs of theological and religious studies students who must plan a research project and carry it out to completion to qualify for a degree through research

Religious Education at Schools in Europe Martin Rothgangel,Robert Jackson,Martin Jäggle,2014-05-14 The project Religious Education at Schools in Europe REL EDU which is divided up into six volumes Central Europe Western Europe Northern Europe Southern Europe South Eastern Europe Eastern Europe aims to research the situation with regard to religious education in Europe The second volume outlines the organisational form of religious education in the countries of Western Europe England Ireland Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Belgium France Luxembourg Netherlands This is done on the basis of thirteen key issues which allows specific points of comparison between different countries in Europe Thereby the volume focusses the comparative approach and facilitates further research into specific aspects of the comparison

Christian Perspectives for Education Leslie J. Francis,Adrian Thatcher,1990 **Accessions List, Eastern Africa** Library of Congress. Library of Congress Office, Nairobi, Kenya,1990 Number 6 includes cumulative main and added entry index for the monographs listed in that year

Report of the President of Harvard College and Reports of Departments Harvard University,1894

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