

Course Title	<i>Religious Studies (Studies of Religion)</i>
Academic Hours (lectures/ seminars) and total numbers	<i>(20/30) 51</i>
Language of the Course	<i>English</i>
Name of the Lecturer, occupation, scientific degree	<i>Anastasiya Domanskaya, Lecturer, Master's degree in Humanities</i>
Lecturer's personal page	<i>At http://www.ffsn.bsu.by, temporary n/a</i>
Goals	<i>Introduction to major Western and Post-Soviet conceptions of religion, religiosity; religious life in contemporary world.</i>
Prerequisites (<i>предварительные требования</i>)	<i>Basic knowledge in World History, civilizations' development. Background in Social Theory strongly recommended.</i>
Contents	<i>The up-to-date situation in religious life of the world: main world religions, their dominating confessions, geographical spread. Main approaches in the theory of religion: evolutionism, functionalism, structuralism, phenomenology, interpretative anthropology, rational choice theory. Scientific explication of religiosity and religious experience. Ritual theory and basic religious practices. Secularity, its history and global influence. Correlation of basic religious concepts with basic values of secular society. Religious societies vs. secular societies.</i>
Teaching methodology	<i>Lectures, group-discussions, tests.</i>
Recommended literature	<i>1. Orsi R. The Cambridge Companion to Religious Studies. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011. 2. Smart N.. The World's Religions: Old Traditions and Modern Transformations. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989. 3. Pals D. Introducing Religion: Readings from the Classic Theorists. Oxford University Press, USA, 2008.</i>
Examination methodology	<i>Oral examination: 60 %. Test: 40 %</i>
Recommended for	<i>Third- to fifth- year undergraduate students, Master's program students</i>