UCLouvain

lreli1352

2026

Ethics - Society - Religion

5.00 credits	30.0 h	Q1

This biannual learning is being organized in 2026-2027

Teacher(s)	Odak Stipe ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	To meet these objectives, the course is broken down as follows: - (Module A: ethics and society) a general introduction to ethical reflection on social matters; conceptual work is combined with case studies (the question of sustainable development is addressed among other topics) ; - (Module B: social ethics and religion) the influence of religious traditions, in particular Christian social teaching, on theories and real life in a pluralistic and multicultural society.
Learning outcomes	**At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :** 1 By the end of this course, the student should be able to: - articulate questions regarding norms and values in institutional contexts; - indicate the ethical implications of social sciences and law; - work with the key concepts of social philosophy; - understand the role of religions within theories of justice and concrete commitments.
Evaluation methods	Evaluation combines continuous assessment (20%) with a final oral examination (80%). The final oral exam consists of one or two randomly drawn questions. Students are given 15 minutes to prepare, followed by 15 minutes of oral examination.
Teaching methods	The course is structured around lectures delivered by the instructor, complemented by active class discussion, which forms an essential part of each session. It may also include contributions from visiting lecturers, as well as organized participation in a conference or cultural event relevant to the course.
Content	This course addresses a central question: what constitutes a just society, and how might it be built? In this pursuit, it examines the interplay between religious traditions, ethical principles, and cultural and political factors. Each year, the course engages a changing selection of contemporary issues situated at the intersection of these dimensions — illustrative examples might include environmental protection, artificial intelligence, the economy and the value of work, atheism and the ethics of belief, or fundamentalism and religious freedom. Beyond the social doctrine of the Catholic Church, the course brings other philosophical and religious traditions into dialogue.
Inline resources	A selection of scholarly texts and online resources will be made available on Moodle.
Other infos	While the language of instruction for this course is French, accommodations are available for non-native speakers. Students may pose questions, engage in consultations with the instructor, and submit their assignments in English.
Faculty or entity in charge	TEBI

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)

Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Certificat universitaire en théologie (fondements)	TECA9CE	3		
Certificat d'université en éthique et société	ETES9CE	5		
Minor in Sciences of Religions (discipline to complement the major)	MINSREL	5		
Minor in Christian Theology	MINTHEO	5		
Master [120] in Sciences of Religions	SREL2M	4		
Minor in Sciences of Religions (openness) - (only available for reenrolment)	MINRELI	5		
Bachelor in religious studies	RELI1BA	5		
Additionnal module in Religious Studies	APPTHEO	5		
Mineure "Appréhender le religieux depuis les sciences sociales"	MINAREL	5		