



Istituto Superiore
di Scienze Religiose

Alberto Marvelli

Diocesi di Rimini e di
San Marino-Montefeltro



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DELLA REPUBBLICA
DI SAN MARINO

Advanced Study Course
in
***Interreligious dialogue
and
International relations***

1. 1. Identity

The *Scuola Superiore di Studi Storici of the University of San Marino* and the *Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose “A. Marvelli”* of the dioceses of Rimini and San Marino-Montefeltro, in agreement with the *National Service for Higher Studies in Theology and Religious Sciences* of the Bishops’ Conference of Italy and the *Theology Faculty of Emilia-Romagna*, will hold, after the 1st edition (2018-2020), a new edition, as of the 2022-2023 academic year, of the *Advanced Study Course* in “Interreligious Dialogue and International Relations”.

From an objective approach to the religious phenomenon, capable of holding together *historicity* and *comparison* of the different religious cultures, the Course aims at elaborating an epistemologically founded culture of interreligious dialogue, conviviality and International relations, as these are essential premises to stem any form of radicalism and fundamentalism or clash of civilisations.

The Course will particularly focus on the *Balkan and Mediterranean Areas*, also in view of fostering an innovative and concrete development of networks of solidarity, promotion of peace as well as interreligious and intercultural cohabitation. The initiative also originates from the conviction that a United Europe in terms of politics, culture, economics and social entity is staking its future in a renewed dialogue with the East and that only mutual understanding can make it possible for the different Eastern and Western European religious cultures to meet in view of a renewed European identity.

Nowadays knowledge of religion, dialogue and constructive confrontation between the various social and religious communities play a major part culturally and spiritually as well as socially and politically, including the issue of International relations, while at the same time becoming a major stake-holder in the integration and pacification processes.

The Course will be taught over a two year period for a total of **60 ECTS (University Credit Units)**, corresponding to a *First Level Master's Degree*.

2. Scope and Methods

The *Advanced Study Course* is designed to offer an accurate specialised knowledge of the major Religions, how they interconnect and interrelate with the different geopolitical and cultural contexts. The intention is therefore to provide the specific skills, methods and techniques required to scientifically face the challenges and the changes regarding the relation between religions, cultures and societies by studying the hermeneutics of sources, traditions and their historical and cultural development in the contemporary context.

The objective is to therefore to provide a systematic and organic understanding of the various expressions and present-day needs of the *homo religiosus*, the increasing public and political part that Religions find themselves playing in our global world, without ever artificially separating the theological elaboration pertaining to every religious tradition from the concrete present capacity to relate to the cultures of mankind and the major challenges of the new millennium.

The syllabus will explore the anthropological, cultural, linguistic, philosophical, theological and mystical aspects of the various religious traditions in order to get a deeper understanding of the roots of the various civilisations and cultural identities, their historical and political developments, their spread and influence.

Furthermore it will seek to generate autonomous research skills in the field of religious history and other disciplines relating to the religious phenomenon, with particular reference to the study of the many ethical, legal and political (both religious and secular) systems that are present in our contemporary society.

The method envisaged will be that of holding together the relations between identity and difference, between personal and public dimensions of religion, also in order to foster a more grounded rediscovery of choices in the face of the challenges that pluralism and globalisation have presented and continue to present to each and every Religion, and *in primis* to Christianity.

3. Recipients, requisites and professional profiles

The *Advanced Study Course* is particularly suited to those who operate or who intend to operate in strategic sectors of International relations as well as interreligious and intercultural dialogue and who require specific training in the knowledge of major cultures and religious traditions of mankind.

Thanks to its unique and systematic approach to the religious phenomenon, broadened to include the current social and political context, the course also addresses the needs of professionals who require specific interreligious and intercultural skills.

In particular to:

- Graduate and Post Graduate students in Contemporary History and History of Christianity
- Graduate students in Theological Studies
- Graduate and Post Graduate students in History of Religions, Philosophy of Religions, Eastern Religions
- Graduate and Post Graduate students in Law Studies, History of International Relations, History of Political Theories, *et similia*
- Graduate and Post-Graduate in Literature and Philosophy as well as Political Science
- Young Diplomats from the whole Balkan and Mediterranean area
- Operators involved in Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue
- Individuals working in the field of International relations, Voluntary organisations, etc.

Anyone with a three-year Degree preferably in History, Law, Literature and philosophy may enrol in this *Advanced Study Course*. Holders of a three-year Degree in Religious Studies, a Baccalaureate in Theology, a five-year Degree in Religious Studies, teachers of Catholic Religious Education in secondary schools (pupils aged 11-19), teachers of Law, History, Philosophy and other Humanistic Studies may also enrol.

The syllabus is oriented to training expert professionals with specific skills in the emerging sector of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, mostly in connection with International relations and complex organisations that characterise our globalized post-modern societies. The course was particularly designed for the following *professional profiles*:

- Researchers in Religious Science from Universities based in Europe as well as in the Balkan and Mediterranean Area
- Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps of European countries as well as Balkan and Mediterranean Area

- International experts and consultants in the field of International relations, cultural policies and social integration
- Intercultural mediators capable of playing an active part as integrating players within various institutions (social services and shelters in charge of migrants and asylum seekers, economic institutions, trade unions, etc.)
- Trainers and/or teachers specialising in interreligious and intercultural dialogue training
- University researchers and operators specialising in International (political, institutional, humanitarian, etc.) relations
- Project Managers in charge of integration and development training/educational programmes
- Teachers of Catholic Religion and History of Religions
- Experts in interreligious and intercultural communication
- Operators specialised in International projects relating to peace-enforcing, interreligious dialogue and International voluntary work
- Co-ordinators in charge of projects relating to global awareness education, social inclusion and cultural integration.

4. Participants

The number of applicants to the *Advanced Study Course* will be limited to 35 students and the course will be activated only upon reaching a minimum of 20 ordinary students.

Should the number of applicants exceed the maximum threshold envisaged, a commission will be set up for the purpose of selecting participants. Beside the documentation attached to the application, a preliminary interview with individual applicants may be required in order to carry out said selection.

5. Organisation and Syllabus

The Course will be **condensed over a single academic year**. The study programme is organised in 2 semesters and includes the following courses and lecturers:

Major Courses and Lectures	ECTS	Lectures
<i>Philosophy of Dialogue and Culture</i> Prof. NEVIO GENGHINI	4	28
<i>Phenomenology of Religions and Challenges of Modernity</i> Prof. ADOLFO MORGANTI	5	35
<i>Hebraism: History, Culture and International Relations</i> Prof. PIERO STEFANI	4	28
<i>Ecumenical dialogue (history and theology)</i> Prof. NATALINO VALENTINI	5	35
<i>International Relations: Islam, the Mediterranean and the West</i> Prof. FRANCO CARDINI	5	35
<i>Christianity and Interfaith dialogue</i> Prof. BRUNETTO SALVARANI	5	35
<i>Bioethics in interfaith perspective</i> Prof. GABRIELE RASCHI – PROF. MARCO DAL CORSO	4	28
<i>Sociology of Monotheist Religions</i> Prof.sa ELENA CECCHI	4	28
<i>Religions of the Far East: Buddhism, Hinduism, Shintoism</i> Prof. GUIDO ZANDERIGO	4	28
<i>International Relations and Religions: Balkan Area and Central Europe</i> Prof. LARIS GAISER	4	28
Seminars	8	56
TOTAL	52	364

SEMINARS

(in collaboration with the *Scuola Superiore di Studi Storici*)

- *Bible, Philosophy and Religions* - Prof. KURT APPEL (University of Vienna)
- *Orthodoxy in Europe: historical and geopolitical aspects* – Prof. ADRIANO ROCCUCCI (University of Roma Tre)
- *Models of evangelisation in China, between Past and Present* - Prof. p. ANTONIO OLMI (Theology Faculty of Emilia-Romagna - Bologna)
- *Art in major Religions* - Prof. ALESSANDRO GIOVANARDI (ISSR “A. Marvelli” - Rimini)
- *Dialogue between Catholicism and Reformed Churches* - Prof. LUBOMIR ŽAK (University of Prague)
- *Catholic – Islamic Dialogue* - Prof.sa HANIEH TARKIAN (in collaboration with the Islamic Cultural Centre of Rome)
- *Christianity and Buddhism* – TAITEN GUARESCHI (Zen Fudenji Buddhist Monastery– Parma)
- *Religions and Peace: Europe, Russia and Eurasia* – ALDO FERRARI – ADALBERTO MAINARDI

Overview	ECTS	hours
Major Courses	44	308
Seminars	8	56
Final paper	8	56
TOTAL CREDITS	60	420

6. Science Committee

Franco Cardini (Head), Gabriele Raschi (Coordinator), Kurt Appel, Marco Casadei, Riccardo Burigana, Aldo Ferrari, p. Antonio Olmi, Domenico Otranto, Adriano Rossi, Brunetto Salvarani, p. Guglielmo Spirito, Natalino Valentini, Lubomir Žak, Musarra Antonio, Gambini Dianella.

7. Coordination (Institutional and operational contact persons)

Gabriele Raschi (Overall Coordinator); Marco Casadei (Head of ISSR “A. Marvelli”); Adolfo Morganti; Nevio Genghini; Natalino Valentini.

8. Lecturers

In addition to its qualified team of specialist lecturers involved in the day-to-day teaching programmes, most of them with ongoing National and International academic records, every year the Scuola can rely on the teaching and scientific contribution of experts and scholars of proven International academic relevance. Distinguished representatives of Orthodox Churches, Reformed Denominations as well as Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Shinto religious traditions are also engaged as *visiting professors*.

9. Course organisation (lectures)

Major Course Lectures will be held on the "A. Marvelli" ISSR premises in Rimini. Lectures will be supplemented with full-day study sessions, seminars and workshops that may be held on other premises (Scuola Superiore di Studi Storici - University of the Republic of San Marino; Castelli (Municipalities) of Città, Domagnano and Serravalle of the Republic of San Marino; Pan-European Trust of the Republic of San Marino).

Lectures will be held on **two days a week**, in the evenings, from **November to May**, with an intensive period over **the first two weeks of July**.

Teaching activities will be offered simultaneously in hybrid mode: with a predefined number of students present in the classroom and others online via videoconference.

Programme	Timetable	Days / weeks / periods
14 November 2022 – 31 May + 2 weeks in July	12 hours a week over two days: Mondays and Tuesdays (or Wednesdays) (from 17:10 to 22:25)	Extra activities (Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, etc.) will mainly take place over an intensive two-week period in July.

10. Final Degree

The Final Degree will be awarded upon completion of the course of study, attendance of which is mandatory (2/3 of all course work) as well as passing the final paper, after gaining the credits envisaged for the course itself. Conditions for taking the final paper will be defined in the Education Regulations. 8 ECTS will be allocated to the final paper. The **Advanced Study University Degree in *Interreligious Dialogue and International Relations*** is awarded both by the University of the Republic of San Marino and the Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose, based on the *Memorandum of Understanding* signed by both partner Institutions.

11. Applications

Applications are open from September 1st to October 15th 2022. Enrolment fees are € 2.000 and may be paid in two (or three) instalments.

Accommodation including board and lodgings can be made available to students coming from other regions of Italy or from other Countries for the entire study period, upon request and subject to availability.

Please submit your application to: Segreteria dell'Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose "A. Marvelli", **Via Covignano 265, 47923 Rimini. Tel. & fax (39) 0541 751367 - e-mail address: segreteria@issrmarvelli.it.**

Further details are available through the Website: **www.issrmarvelli.it**.

12. Patronage

The Advanced Study Course is placed under the Patronage of the following Institutions:



- Theology Faculty of Emilia-Romagna Region (Bologna)
- National Office for Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue of the Bishops' Conference of Italy (Rome)
- Study Centre for Ecumenism in Italy (Venice)
- International Association for Mediterranean and Eastern Studies – ISMEO (Rome)
- Theology Institute of Assisi (Italy)
- Venetian Academy of Indian Studies – VAIS (Venice)
- University of Religions and Denomination, Qom (Iran)
- Research Centre of Religions of Vienna
- Office for Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue of the Bishops' Conference of Italy (Emilia Romagna Region)
- CISCuP (International Centre for Pilgrimage Studies)

[Further Patronages awaiting confirmation]