

RELV234/334 Religion and Music

Report, autumn term 2018

Praktisk gjennomføring

The teaching consisted of ten lectures and five seminars. Of the lectures, one was introductory, five gave overviews of religion and music in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and the remaining four took up the following themes: 'Justifying and contesting religious music', 'Religious music in popular culture and advertising', 'Music and the criticism of religion', and 'Religion and music in the 21st century'.

The seminars were devoted to the listening to Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic music with introductions and comments.

Strykprosent, frafall og karakterfordeling

Between seven and twelve students attended the lectures, and twelve took the exam. Out of them, two received an A, two a B, four a C, three a D, and one an F, which is a result on the average. After the publication of the examination results, I sent (through Inspera) individual feedback to each of the students with a short motivation of the grade.

Kommentar til studentevaluering

There was no evaluation of the course this term, but comments from individual students have been positive.

Studieinformasjon og dokumentasjon

Information about the course has been available at Mitt UiB and was given to the students both at the first lecture and continuously during the course.

Tilgang til relevant litteratur

The course literature consisted of two parts, (a) texts that all the students had to read (one book plus a number of wikipedia articles about Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic music), and (b) texts that the student could choose between. Each student specialised in two of the five religions and read two monographs or a number of articles about religion and music in each of these two religions. Students without basic knowledge of the five religions dealt with in the course were recommended to read some introductory texts through as a preparation.

The students did not have any problems in getting the literature. All the books were for sale at the Akademika bookshop and were also available at the university library. All the articles were accessible via Internet or the University Library, all of them with open access.

Faglærers vurdering av rammevilkårene

Everything worked well.

Lokaler og undervisningsutstyr

Everything worked well.

Internasjonalisering

The course is international in many respects. It deals with global religions, the empirical examples are taken from all parts of the world, it is given in English and all the course texts are in English.

Faglærers samlede vurdering, inkl. forslag til forbedringstiltak

The course has only been given twice (the autumn terms of 2016 and 2018) and this was the second and last time.

Bergen, 14 February 2019,

Håkan Rydving
(Course leader)