

BALIKESİR UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY / HIGH SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY ELECTIVE COURSE PRESENTATION FORM

Department / Department	FACULTY OF THEOLOGY / HISTORY OF RELIGIONS DIVISION					
Course title	NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS					
Semester of the Course	Autumn ☐			Spring ☐		
Course Language	Turkish ☐			English ☐		
Credit	Theoretical 2		Practical 0		Total Credits 2	
ECTS						
Course Type of Study	Formal Education			Elective		
The aim of the course	To familiarize students with the modern religious movements in the West, exploring their emergence reasons and characteristics; to analyze their impacts and functions; and based on this foundation, to equip students with the ability to evaluate similar formations.					
Course Content	This course explores how new religious movements are formed, the atmospheric conditions under which they emerge, and the impact or relationship of Western reform movements (Protestant Christianity) on these formations. It will address critical questions, such as why these types of movements predominantly arise in Protestant Christian countries in the West.					
Prerequisites for the Course	There are no specific or compulsory prerequisites for this course.					
Instructors	Prof. Dr. İsmail BAŞARAN		mail: ibasaran@hotmail.com			
Course Assistant	-		mail :			
Internship Status	-					
Course Resources	Theoretical knowledge transfer.					
Course Structure	Ali Köse, Milenyum Tarikatları: Batı'da Yeni Dinî Akımlar (Millennial Cults: New Religious Movements in the West), Istanbul 2006. A. Rafet Özkan, Kıyamet Tarikatları: Yeni Dinî Hareketler (Doomsday Cults: New Religious Movements), Istanbul 2006.					
Planned Learning Activities and Methods	Theoretical and practical courses					
Course Evaluation Criteria			Course ECTS Calculation Content			
Semester Studies	Number	Contribution (%) Activity	Number Duration	Total Work	Load	(Hours)

Midterm	1	40	Course Duration			
Quiz			Extracurricular Study Time			
Homework			Midterm Exams	40		
continuation			Final Exam	60		
Application			Total Workload: 74 hours			
Project			ECTS Credits:			
Semester final exam	1	60				

Learning Outcomes of the Course

Course Subjects

Week Subject	Preliminary	Preparation	Documents
1	Reasons for the Emergence of New Religious Movements and Their Basic Characteristics		
2	Jehovah's Witnesses		
3	Seventh-day Adventists		
4	Mormonism: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints		
5	Unification Church (Moonism)		
6	New Age Movements		
7	Church of Scientology		
8	Midterm Exams		
9	Children of God (The Family International)		
10	Suicide Cults		
11	Hare Krishna (ISKCON), Divine Light Mission (ElanVital)		
12	Transcendental Meditation, Osho Movement (Rajneesh)		
13	Sai Baba Movement		
14	Ananda Marga, Brahma Kumaris		
15	Final Examination		

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Contribution of the Course to Program Outcomes	- Identify new religious movements that emerged in the West. - Comprehend the fundamental characteristics, origins, and developmental processes of new religious movements. - Analyze the belief systems and social structures of these movements. - Investigate the sources that influenced their beliefs and social dynamics. - Compare these movements with similar groups emerging in other geographies or within their own immediate environment. - Develop a critical perspective toward these phenomena. - Analyze the relationships between religion-individual and religion-society, as well as the psychological sense of group belonging through the lens of new religious movements.
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- Evaluate and debate the perceived adequacy of traditional religions by examining the proliferation of these
- movements.
- Interpret the expansion tendencies of new religious movements within Muslim societies.
- Formulate academic predictions and assessments regarding the future outlook of new religious movements.