

Title of BIP: Religions in Conflict. From the Reformation to the 21st Century

General information

Objectives and Description:

This BIP course aims to improve understanding of the religious conflicts that have plagued Europe from the 16th century to the present day. The course will explore the dynamics of exclusion and repression on religious grounds. Similarly, it will offer new insights into how these conflicts resulted in the reinforcement of an intolerant group identity based on religious orthodoxy. Practical sessions will enable us to analyse the repression of religious dissent through inquisitorial processes and other documents on religious violence.

Only by developing a rigorous understanding of the past can we hope to gain insight into the conflicts that affect our present. The final part of the course will introduce students to the process of adapting religions to a democratic framework and analyse how this conflict-ridden past has been remembered. It will also present the solutions offered by policy-makers and organizations in the present day.

Methods and outcomes:

The course will feature the participation of various international specialists in the field. Their presentations will take place in two parts: a first part in lecture format, lasting 50 minutes, and a second part open to dialogue with the students, who will be able to raise their own questions and concerns.

Aware of the importance of complementing these sessions with practical cases. Two case studies have been programmed with the participation of professionals from two religious archives in the city of Zaragoza: the Archive of the Archbishopric of Zaragoza and the Archive of the Metropolitan Chapter of Zaragoza.

Finally, a roundtable discussion will be held to encourage debate and reflection. It will be led by policymakers and representatives of organizations seeking to overcome religious differences and prejudices and create a framework of peaceful coexistence among the various denominations

Field of Education:

History, Religious studies, Art History and Anthropology

Target audience / Participants profile:

Students of the above disciplines

No of ECTS issued: 4

Language of instruction and requirements:

Spanish and all the other Romance languages (each participant will use their own language to communicate, but the knowledge of Romance languages other than one's own is not required)

Dates for physical activity: 27th October 2025–31st October 2025

Location of physical activity:

Teaching:

Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Campus San Francisco, Universidad de Zaragoza (Zaragoza, Spain)

(<https://g.co/kgs/o8PZVGs>)

Accommodation:

Universidad de Zaragoza cannot provide accommodation, as every student must pay for his/her own accommodation with the grant received.

Some hotels offer special rates to attend events organized by the University: more information here: <https://vgeconomica.unizar.es/sites/vgeconomica/files/archivos/PCC/hoteles/Listado%20Hoteles%20Concertados%20GZ%202025.pdf>

Other addresses for accommodation in residences and hostels here:

Residencia Nodis: <https://nodiszaragoza.greenlts.es/>

Residencia Xior: <https://xior.es/xior-residencia-estudiantes-zaragoza/>

Residencia Pigantelli: <https://www.residenciapignatelli.es/>

Hostal Ávila: <https://www.elhostalavila.com/>

Meals:

Meals (lunchtime) during the face-to-face week are covered by the organizing University (Zaragoza).

Unizar will provide you with tickets for lunch at a canteen at University during physical mobility.

Dinners are up to the students.

How to arrive to Zaragoza:

<https://www.zaragoza.com/como-llegar/>

Dates for virtual component:

20-24th October 2025

Virtual Component Description:

The virtual activities will be carried out by the students independently and are based on two short texts from the online course 'Religions in Conflict', which is freely available on the UNIZAR Moodle platform. The course introduces the subject matter and addresses the state of research on the history of religious conflicts from early modern times to the present day.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

University of Zaragoza, Spain (Francisco Javier Ramón Solans, fjramon@unizar.es)

University of Zaragoza, Spain (Eliseo Serrano, eserrano@unizar.es)

University of Zaragoza, Spain (Ana Morte, anamorte@unizar.es)

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. University of Turin, Italy (Paolo Cozzo, paolo.cozzo@unito.it)

P2. University of Savoie Mont Blanc, France (Corinne Bonafoux, corinne.Bonafoux-Du-Gru@univ-smb.fr)

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

On Friday morning, 24 October, there will be an online session (10:00-11:30) in which the two short texts will be discussed, and the students will be given a brief presentation to learn more about their training and expectations in relation to the Course

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day: 27th October

9:00-10:00 Welcoming of participants

10:00-11:30 Religions in Conflict

Paolo Cozzo, University of Turin

11:30-12:00 Break

12:00-13:30 *The persecution of Heresy*

Doris Moreno, Autonomous University of Barcelona

13:30-16:00 Lunch break

16:30-19:00 Religious struggle in the 16th Century

Daniel Ochoa, University of Zaragoza

Jonathan Nelson, *Escuela Evangélica de Teología FIEIDE*

2nd day: 28th October

9:30-11:00 Religious intolerance

Juan Postigo Vidal, University of Zaragoza

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30 Visit to the Erasmian Zaragoza

13:30-16:00 Lunch break

16:30-18:30 Gender, religion and conflict

Ana Morte, University of Zaragoza

3rd day: 29th October

9:30-13:30 Practical session: Religious Conflict in the Archives

Juan Ramón Royo, archivist of the Archbishopric of Zaragoza

Isidoro Miguel García, archivist of the Metropolitan Chapter of Zaragoza.

13:30-16:00 Lunch break

16:00-19:30 Religion in Democracy: Laicism and Anti-Clericalism :

Corinne Bonafoux, University of Savoie-Mont-Blanc:

Pilar Salomón, University of Zaragoza,

Julio de la Cueva Merino, University of Castilla-La Mancha

4th day: 30th October

9:00-10:00

Juan Pablo Domínguez, University of Navarra

10:00-11:00 Relics of Religious Violence

Silvia Cavicchioli, University of Turin

11:30-13:30 Guided tour to the Aljafería Palace, former headquarters of the Inquisition

13:30-16:00 Lunch break

16:30-18:30 Round table: Religions in democracy: preventing conflicts, promoting dialogue.

Fernando Arlettaz, Seminario de investigaciones por la paz.

Álvaro Baraibar, Universidad pública de Navarra

Inés Mazarrasa Steinkuhler, Directora de la Fundación pluralismo y convivencia

5th day: 31th october

10:00-11:30 Memories of intolerance

Javier Ramón Solans

12:00 Conclusions

Eliseo Serrano, Universidad de Zaragoza, director del curso

Ana Morte, Universidad de Zaragoza, co-directora del curso

Javier Ramón, Universidad de Zaragoza, co-director del curso

[Application procedure](#)

To apply, students should contact the project coordinator at their university for registration, who will instruct them to go to their university's International Relations for funding details.

Deadline for receiving list of participants at relint@unizar.es: September 20th.

4 participants per institution are welcome.