This class explores the emergence of “religion” as a central component of the modern social order. We will examine the historical, philosophical, and psychological trajectories that have shaped our ideas about religion, starting with the eighteenth century. What lineages of thought have influenced the French resistance to the Catholic Church and later to Islam? Furthermore, who are the modern critics and advocates of religion—Kant, Freud, or Martin Luther King? Beyond reading scholarly texts, the class will draw on other mediums including cinema and art.

No prerequisite

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Tuesdays & Thursdays  
9:30AM-10:45AM  

General Education Requirements: PH, NA