

TEACHING ASSISTANT POSITION

Sciences Po's Department for Studies and Partnerships is seeking, for the Spring semester 2024-2025:

A PhD student in 2024-2025, interested in a **teaching assistant position** for the in-depth lecture course, "**Religion and Populism**", taught in English by Professor Nadia MARZOUKI.

This course is part of the [Masters' Common Academic Curriculum](#).

Course description

The course on Religion and Populism offers a comprehensive overview of the relationships between religion and populism, and interrogates how this relationship impacts democratic and civil life.

The course's objective is threefold.

- It will allow students to gain a comparative understanding of the various combinations between populism and religion, through looking at a variety of empirical cases from North America, Western and Eastern Europe, Latin America, South Asia, and the Middle East and North Africa. The course will interrogate the evolving relationship among populist leaders, movements and voters, and religious leaders, institutions, traditions, cultures.
- The course seeks to give students tools for a rigorous command over social science debates and concepts with which populism is often associated. Contrasting with the catch-all way in which populism is used in the media, the course will introduce students to scholarly debates about the meaning and genealogy of the concept, and invite them to interrogate the relevance of the term for specific contexts. Due to the overblown use of the term in the public, it might be tempting to call for dropping the concept altogether, as too thin and too all-encompassing. Yet, it is undeniable that we do live in a populist moment, with populist rhetorics and ideas becoming central in politics across the world. For that reason, it is key to gain a clear understanding of the nuances among terms such as populism, nationalism, authoritarianism, right-wing politics, to name just a few. The goal will not be to impose a fixed typology of definitions, but to give students tools to appreciate the complexities and nuances of these labels and the socio-political arrangements they seek to describe.
- The course will embrace the dual aspect of populism by showing how it seeks to be both socially inclusive, through social welfare programs, and ideologically exclusive in its insistence on establishing strict boundaries of a political community. It will interrogate spaces and normative repertoires where religion and populism meet (for e.g. around notions such as chosen people, enemy, purity) and depart (for e.g. around notions of solidarity, love, and hospitality).

Calendar

This course will meet every **Tuesday from 2:45 pm to 4:45 pm**, on the Paris campus, in the Spring semester 2024-2025.

Courses will start on Saturday, January 25, and end on Monday, April 28, 2025 (Vacation from February 24 to Mars 2 // Mid-term exams: on Saturdays Mars 8, 15, 22, 29 // Final exams: session from May 5 to 13).

Student grades will be submitted by the end of May 2025.

Activities

The Teaching Assistant' mission, in support of the Professor, on-campus, may include the following responsibilities:

- Assisting in the preparation of the course and bibliographic/pedagogical resources;
- Making course materials available to students on the Moodle platform or via other media (email);
- Following up with students by email: answers to questions, bibliographic and methodological advice, reminders of instructions, logistical assistance, etc. ;
- Offer a collective methodological tutoring, on-campus, before the midterm and the final assignments;
- Coordinating with the Professor the preparation, proctoring, organization and grading of the various assignments and exams.

This position is proposed to PhD students, working on religion and politics. It requires an excellent level of English, as well as the requisite personal qualities (intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, punctuality, availability, ability to listen, analytical clarity, rigor, and a sense of responsibility). A good level in French is also appreciated.

Number of hours and compensation

The contractual number of hours is 16 for the semester, with a remuneration set to 65.10 € per hour (pre-tax).

The grading of exams is additionally remunerated, per copy, at the end of the semester. The rate of remuneration varies depending on the length of the assignment concerned. As part of a contractual teaching service, the remuneration for this grading is calculated as "teaching hour equivalent".

Application

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your application (CV and cover letter, in English) to Professor Nadia MARZOUKI, by **Wednesday, November 13, 2024**: nadia.marzouki@sciencespo.fr
(CC) formation.commune@sciencespo.fr