**Module Code:** AA-4204  
**Module Title:** Anthropology of Religion  
**Programme:** Bachelor of Arts  
**Type of Module:** Core / Breadth  
**Modular Credits:** 4  
**Contact Hours for timetabling:** 8 – 10 hours per week (2 hours per week)  
**Prerequisite:** None  
**Anti-prerequisite:** None  

**Aims:**  
This module adopts a sociological and anthropological perspective on religious understanding and behaviour. It examines the manner in which different cultures classify and interpret the material, social and metaphysical phenomena that they identify as fundamental to their way of life. It looks at how religion influences society and how society influences the practice of religion.

**Module Content:**

- terminological considerations: world views, religion and belief systems  
- classical approaches: the sociology and anthropology of religion as an academic field  
- metaphysical ideologies: their psychological and sociological functions  
- metaphysical explanations for misfortune: sorcery and witchcraft  
- ritual and symbolism: sacred and secular  
- practitioners of the sacred and the varieties of religious organization  
- revitalization movements  

**Assessment:**

| Examination: 2 hours | 50% | Coursework:  
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<td>2 short essays (@ 20% each)</td>
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**Textbook(s)/References:**


**Staff:** Dr Bianca Jade Smith