

Religion and Media in East Asia

Theories and Concepts

This masterclass will explore forms and levels of interaction between religions, believers, expressions of religiosity on one hand and media (such as TV programs, websites, social networking sites, advertising, film and comics) on the other.

We will look at how the mediation of religion affects key concepts in the study of religion; notions such as *authority, community, church, ethics, pilgrimage, ritual, text, practice* will thus be addressed. On the other hand, we will discuss the impact of religious media and mediated religions on society. What are the relations between *online* and *offline* communities? What is the role of (religious) media in the relations between local and diaspora communities? These are only few of the questions we will explore.

The masterclass will be based on specific case studies from East Asia, however critical theories and concepts that we will debate are also applicable to the study of religion and media in other regions.

DR. ERICA BAFFELLI (UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER)

DR. STEFANIA TRAVAGNIN (UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN)

PREPARATORY READINGS:

Dorman, Benjamin and Ian Reader. 2007. 'Projections and Representations of Religion in Japanese Media' *Nova Religio* 10:3, pp.5-12

Ho Wai-Yip. 2010. Islam, China and the Internet: Negotiating Residual Cyberspace between Hegemonic Patriotism & Connectivity to the Ummah. *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 30:1, pp.63-79

Joonseng Lee. 2009. 'Cultivating the Self in Cyberspace: the Use of Personal Blogs among Buddhist Priests.' *Journal of Media and Religion*, 8: 2, pp.97-114

Qingjiang Yao, Daniel A. Stout, and Zhaoxi Liu. 2011. 'China's Official Media Portrayal of Religion (1996-2005): Policy Change in a Desecularizing Society.' *Journal of Media and Religion*, 10, pp.39-50

Thomas, Jolyon B. 2012. *Drawing on Tradition: Manga, Anime, and Religion in Contemporary Japan*, Hawai'i University press (Chapter 2: Recreating Religion)



university of
 groningen

2 December 2014, 10.00-13.00
University of Groningen,
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies
Oude Boteringestraat 38, Room 125