

The ABIGAIL
ADAMS
INSTITUTE

&

The PROGRAM on
INTEGRATIVE
KNOWLEDGE
and HUMAN
FLOURISHING
at
HARVARD
UNIVERSITY

present

Religion & THE Social Sciences

A Summer Seminar

June 12 - 17, 2016
Harvard University



FACULTY LEADERS

David Campbell | Department of Political Science, *University of Notre Dame*

William English | McDonough School of Business, *Georgetown University*

Tyler VanderWeele | Chan School of Public Health, *Harvard University*

W. Bradford Wilcox | Department of Sociology, *University of Virginia*

Should social sciences pay more attention to religion? Although we increasingly live in a secular age, religious beliefs and practices continue to shape individual behavior and decision-making, social institutions, and human self-understanding in profound ways. While there are specialized academic subfields that study religion itself, such as the "sociology of religion" or the "psychology of religion," the *influence* of religion arguably remains a neglected topic in social scientific inquiry.

This week-long summer seminar will review what is known about the role religion plays in various aspects of life and explore new avenues for research. Lectures and readings will focus on four central topics and disciplines: **Religion and Politics, Religion and Family, Religion and Society, and Religion and Public Health.** The seminar format will allow for extensive discussion concerning substantive findings, methodological issues, and research opportunities. Social outings will also facilitate informal conversations throughout the week.

Applicants should send a CV, a statement of interest, a short writing sample and contact information for two faculty members familiar with your work who would be willing to provide informal references to seminars@abigailadamsinstitute.org by April 10th, 2016

RELIGION & THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

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ABOUT THE SEMINAR:

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This week-long summer seminar on "Religion in the Social Sciences" will review what is known about the role religion plays in various aspects of life and explore new agendas for research. Lectures, and readings will focus on four central topics and disciplines: **Religion and Politics, Religion and Family, Religion and Society, and Religion and Public Health**. The seminar format will allow for extensive discussion concerning substantive findings, methodological issues, and research opportunities. Social outings will also facilitate informal conversations throughout the week.

ABOUT THE SPONSORS:

This seminar is jointly sponsored by the newly established Program on Integrative Knowledge and Human Flourishing at Harvard University and by the Abigail Adams Institute.

Harvard's Program on Integrative Knowledge and Human Flourishing aims to carry out research and teaching on topics at the interface of the humanities and the empirical social sciences, and to consider how such knowledge can contribute to human well-being. The Abigail Adams Institute is an academic initiative within the Cambridge intellectual community dedicated to maintaining, developing, and transmitting ideas that advance the common good and to furthering the principles of reasoned discourse necessary for intellectual inquiry.

ELIGIBILITY:

This seminar is open to graduate students in the social sciences, humanities, and related disciplines.

COST:

A seminar fee of \$200 covers food and lodging for the duration of the seminar. Attendees are responsible for their own travel expenses. Limited financial aid may be available for those with demonstrated need.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

To apply, please send the following to seminars@abigailadamsinstitute.org:

1. Your CV.
2. A 1-page statement of interest discussing your reasons for wanting to participate in the seminar.
3. A short writing sample.
4. Contact information (name, position, email, phone) for two faculty members familiar with your work who would be willing to provide an informal reference. (Formal recommendation letters are not necessary.)

The extended application deadline for the seminar is April 10, 2016. Applicants can expect to receive a decision by April 22, 2015.

