

SCIENCES  
PO  
LILLE.

Summer  
SCHOOL

# Reassessing the place of religion in the European public sphere

This course is an examination of the social and political dynamics currently shaping the management of religions in the European public sphere. The focus will be particularly on the intertwined relationship between religions and migration as it is represented by the notion of “Muslim immigrants” reaching “secular Europe”.

This dichotomous and simplistic view has been negatively affected by Europe’s multiple crises, which escalate with the resurgence of an “Islamic” terrorist threat and the growth of right-wing extremism and populist movements. Therefore, the course engages in critically investigating the multifaceted meanings of ‘secular’, ‘religious’ and ‘secular public realm’ in today’s Europe.

Presenting the historical legacies and the different types of political secularism currently at play in the European context, it closely analyses specific controversial issues, including wearing ostentatious religious symbols; Islamic preaching and the construction of mosques; and the flourishing of halal economy.

