

- Title: **Religion to Die For**
- Elias Bouboutsis
- Description: People so deeply identified with their religion that they're willing to die for it. Is it just fanaticism? Extremism? Crazy? Or do we in the 'West' just not understand the depth of spiritual community in other parts of the world? This course will work to deepen our understanding and respect for the peoples of the Middle East and Balkans, for whom historic faith communities often form the core of identity. Instead of envisioning an unavoidable 'clash of civilizations' with and in these communities, we will explore possibilities for building peace, tolerance and pluralism out of the heart of intense religious community identity.
- Bio: An 'Orthodox pluralist,' Dr. Bouboutsis teaches graduate ministry across faith traditions, and has served interfaith solidarity movements like the Parliament for the World's Religions and the National Conference for Community and Justice since 1995.

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