Secularization is commonly understood as definitive of Western modernity, and is associated with its most prized possessions: liberty, progress, and rationality. Recent discussions of the putative decline of religion have called into question this common understanding, and there is now considerable disagreement about the nature and extent of secularization, and about its historical causes. This seminar series will seek to identify and critically assess prominent narratives of secularization.

March 14. PROF PETER HARRISON (UQ)  
Science and Secularization

April 4. DR IAN HESKETH (UQ)  
The Historical Jesus in Victorian Britain

April 18. PROF. CONAL CONDREN (UNSW)  
The History of Political Thought as Secular 
Genealogy: The Case of Liberty in Early 
Modern England

May 9. PROF IAN HUNTER (UQ)  
Secularization: Cartographic Sketches of a 
Modern Combat Concept

May 23. PROF. GERALD GAUS (ARIZONA)  
Religious Belief and Public Reason

June 6. PROF. SIMON DURING (UQ)  
Is Secularity Possible?

THURSDAYS 4.00-5.30  
CCCSS SEMINAR ROOM LEVEL 4, FORGAN-SMITH BUILDING

Centre for the History of European Discourses