**Prof. Dr. Linda Woodhead**

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Linda Woodhead is a professor for Sociology of Religion at Lancaster University, as well as the director of the Institute of Social Futures at Lancaster University. She received her BA and MA in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Cambridge andan honorary doctorate from the Universities of Uppsala, Zurich, and Oslo for her scientific achievements.

Woodhead´s research examines the relationship between religion and social change, combining religious studies with a wide range of empirical methods. Giving new insights on changing traditions and transformations of practices and beliefs of religion in modern times makes her a leading expert in the field. Recent research focuses on analyzing the worldwide rising phenomenon of “no religion,” a preferred self-designation of people who refuse to categorize themselves as either religious or secular, and display notably variegated beliefs.

## Her books include *Christianity: A Very Short Introduction* (2. ed., 2014), *A Sociology of Religious Emotion* (together with Ole Riis, 2010) and *The Spiritual Revolution: Why Religion is Giving Way to Spirituality* (together with Paul Heelas, 2005). She has recently completed a book titled *That Was The Church That Was: How the Church of England Lost the English People* (together with Andew Brown, 2016) alongside numerous books chapter and journal articles. Her edited books include *Religions in the modern world: traditions and transformations* (3. ed., 2016), *God and Human Dignity* (2009), *Congregational Studies in the UK: Christianity in a Post-Christian Context* (2004), *Predicting Religion: Christian, Secular and Alternative Futures* (2003), *Reinventing Christianity: Nineteenth Century Contexts* (2001), *Religion in Modern Times: An Interpretive Anthology* (2000).

## From 2007 to 2012, she was the director of the AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society Program, exploring the interrelationships between religion and society. In 2013 she received the "Order of the British Empire" (OBE) award for her contributions to higher education.