

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2017

Course: RELS 201-01 Jews, Christians and Muslims
Time: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11:00-11:50
Instructor: Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD
Office Hours: Monday 2:30-3:30. Additional hours by appointment.
Office: SS 516
E-mail: cwcginn@ucalgary.ca
Telephone: 220-5695

Required Text(s):

World Religions: A Guide to the Essentials, Thomas A. Robinson and Hillary Rodrigues (editors)
Baker Academic, November 2014, Print.

The required textbook is listed above. If a student acquires an older edition of the text book in any format and intends to use the older edition rather than the required edition, it is the responsibility of the student to compare the older edition with the newer edition to determine the material that they may be different between the editions. If a student has access to an online version that is without page numbers, it is the responsibility of the student to synchronize the readings with the required textbook.

Course Description:

This course will provide an introduction to the western faiths focusing on Judaism, Christianity (including Mormonism and Pentecostalism), and Islam. Each tradition will be presented according to its historical background, textual tradition, cultural context(s), leading figures, institutions, practices, and key beliefs/doctrines. The development and fragmentation of each faith will be discussed, highlighting cultural shifts and sectarian distinctions. Special attention will be given to Abrahamic covenant, concepts of revelation, the office of the prophet, conquest/war, anti-Semitism, and dimensional analysis.

Students will be guided through an introductory reading of select texts (in English translation) of the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Qur'an, and guided in the examination of revelation, historical context, textual criticism, and issues in exegesis.

The course will be composed of four modules:

- Module 1 Introduction to the Study of Religion (chapter one)
- Module 2 Judaism (chapter three)
- Module 3 Christianity (chapter four)
- Module 4 Islam (chapter five)

Online elements for this course:

In addition to the textbook readings, students will be required to read select excerpts from the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Qur'an. Links will be posted on D2L.

Core Competencies:

Upon completion of this course, students will become familiar with:

- approaches and obstacles to the study of religion
- key terms and concepts in the study of religion
- dimensional analysis of religion
- the historical context and chronological development of the western religious traditions
- key themes and teachings in the western religious traditions
- key figures in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- key religious texts and approaches to interpretation
- the development of sectarianism within each of the western religious traditions
- similarities and differences between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
September 25	Module 1 Test (The Study of Religion): Includes chapter 1 and lectures	10%
October 20	Module 2 Test (Judaism): Includes chapter 3, Hebrew Bible readings, and lectures	30%
November 20	Module 3 Test (Christianity): Includes chapter 4, Hebrew Bible readings, New Testament readings, and lectures	30%
Registrar-scheduled	Final Exam: Includes chapter 5, Hebrew Bible readings, New Testament readings, Qur'an readings, and lectures	30%

Final Examination Period: The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar. Students must be available to write the final exam on the day and time set by the Registrar's Office, up to the last day of the examination period as specified in the Academic Schedule. The dates of the final exam period are December 11-21. A final exam cannot be deferred for misreading the final examination schedule or accommodating travel plans or work schedules. Valid reasons include illness or personal emergency, religious observance, or domestic affliction. Students with three exams in 24 hours may defer one of their exams to the deferred final examination period. For further information see Deferred Exams <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Grading:

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Adjusted Grades:

The instructor will implement .5% as a standard measure of adjustment for grades. For example, a final grade of 64.5% (C) will be rounded up to 65% (C+). Please do not send email inquiries asking the instructor to increase or 'round up' your final grade.

Policy with regard to missed assessments:

If a student misses a test exam, the student must provide the instructor with supporting documentation (note from doctor, counselor, accident report, etc.) within 48 hours of the absence. If documentation is not provided within 48 hours, the student will not be provided an opportunity to make up the test and will receive a numerical mark of zero.

Extra Assignments:

There are no extra assignments for this course. Students will not be given an opportunity to submit extra work or retake exams to increase their grade.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Please be courteous toward other students in the course. For students who raise questions during class, please contribute to the resourceful use of classroom time by limiting the number of questions you ask in each class. While evaluative inquiries are permitted, students are encouraged to steer them toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas.

Expectations for email correspondence in this course:

Email must be sent from a U of C email account. Please do NOT send from other accounts, such as Gmail or Hotmail.

Please include the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by name and the course you are registered in. Please do not send email inquiries related to dates and deadlines. Students shall refer to the university calendar, course outline, and final exam schedule for schedule information. Inquiries related to exams or assignments must be sent no less than 24 hours before a deadline.

The instructor will reply to emails on business days.

Electronic Device Policy:

Laptops are permitted during class if used for the purpose of taking lecture notes. Do not use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other social or recreational activities. Cell phones must be turned off during the entire class time. Texting during class is not permitted. Taking pictures in the classroom is not permitted, including picture-taking of data projector images and slides. Students that distract the instructor or other students due to the misuse of electronic devices during class will be asked to leave the classroom for the duration of the lecture.

Recording of lectures is prohibited without the consent of the instructor. According to Academic Regulations E.6, “With the permission of the instructor, students may tape record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a Release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered.” Regulation E.6 includes the notification to students, “Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.” Regulation E.6 includes a statement on the Copyright Act: “The Copyright Act and the copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.”

Office hours:

Office hours are structured in 15-minute appointments. Sign-up sheets for the semester are posted on the instructor’s door at SS 516. If a student is not able to meet with the instructor during office hours, the student may request to meet at an alternative time during department hours. Appointments for meetings outside of office hours must be requested in person before or after class, followed by an email request. If a student requires an extended meeting, the student must make an appointment outside of the instructor’s scheduled office hours during department hours. Generally extended meetings will not exceed 30 minutes and will be scheduled on a weekly basis according to the instructor’s availability. Appointments for extended meetings must be requested in person before or after class, followed by an email request identifying the list of items the student would like to discuss. Note: The instructor will not be available for office hours on October 5 (statutory holiday), November 13 (midterm break), or November 20 (Annual Meeting American Academy of Religion).

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

Student Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help:

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library.

Freedom of Information and Privacy:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative:

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

Safewalk:

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.