



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION
COURSE OUTLINE
Summer 2023**

COURSE NUMBER: RELS 201

COURSE NAME: Jews, Christians, and Muslims

CLASSROOM LOCATION: Electronic Course Through D2L/Brightspace

CLASS DAYS & TIME: Tuesday/Thursday, 1:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. (MDT) via Zoom

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT INCLUDING UCALGARY EMAIL & PHONE:

Dr. Jurgens (lkjurgens@ucalgary.ca)

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:

Please use email as the primary contact method and all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email.

Please note that I will not respond to emails after regular business hours. I also cannot guarantee that I will check and/or respond to emails over weekends, so please make sure to email me well in advance, if there is an assessment due early in the week. If you have questions about an assessment (tests, assignments, etc.), please make sure to email me at least 24 hours before the deadline.

I am happy to talk with students about any aspect of the course, so please send me an email or make an appointment with me over email to chat via Zoom.

NAME & EMAIL CONTACT OF TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Kathleen McKenzie (kathleen.mckenzie2@ucalgary.ca)

COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT: Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with an introduction to the main three religious traditions that have shaped the Western world, focusing specifically on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Students will examine these Western religions and their historical context, key figures, sacred texts, main beliefs, rituals, and practices. By the end of this course, students should be familiar with the essential characteristics of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

This course will take place online via Desire2Learn (D2L/Brightspace). Learning will occur in both synchronous (i.e., real-time/Zoom) and asynchronous (i.e., students complete the material on their own time such as readings, watching videos, recorded lectures, etc.) contexts.

This course will take a “flipped class” approach where the bulk of the course materials (like lectures) are introduced outside of the classroom (asynchronously) and where the live sessions will be used for inquiry, further developing writing skills, etc.

Our class will meet synchronously every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. (MDT), via Zoom, on these dates:

June 29
July 6
July 13
July 20
July 27
August 3

Although I will regularly provide reminders, students are expected to keep themselves on track with completing required content for each module. There is also an expectation that students will reach out to the instructor or TA if they have questions about the course content. We are available to help you with the course content throughout the semester, so please reach out to me or our TA.

Please note: This course has been condensed for the Summer term and covers the same amount of material as a Fall or Winter semester course. Normally, there are 13 weeks in a Fall or Winter semester. There are only about 6 weeks in the Summer semester. Therefore, students should expect that this course will be a full semester worth of work in a shorter amount of time.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be introduced to the three main Western religions. Committed students will become familiar with each religious tradition, especially important terms and concepts. Through actively engaging with the required readings and lecture materials, students will become knowledgeable of the historical context, essential beliefs, and practices within these three main Western religious traditions. Students will also further develop their writing skills.

By the end of the course, committed students should be able to...

1. Understand the importance of adequately paraphrasing information and properly citing sources in an academic context.
2. Identify and comprehend key historical events, beliefs, rituals, and practices within the Western religions.
3. Articulate their knowledge of Western religions, especially of key terms and concepts, from an academic perspective.
4. Evaluate and engage with appropriate scholarly sources.
5. Construct a research essay.
6. Further develop their writing skills.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Textbook:

Deming, Willoughby. *Understanding the Religions of the World: An Introduction*. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2015.

This textbook is free and available online (as an eBook) through the University of Calgary library:

https://ucalgary-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1p0s7n7/TN_cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781118770559

Additional reading may be posted to D2L/Brightspace.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a Desire2Learn site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca). Students will complete all assessments through D2L. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking an online course, like this one, are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system
- A current and updated web browser
- Broadband (strong) internet connection

CLASS SCHEDULE

Please Note: This is a provisional schedule. Please see our course shell on D2L/Brightspace for the most up-to-date schedule for each Unit (including links for readings, lectures, etc.), and please make sure to follow the material that is posted on D2L/Brightspace.

Schedule	Topic	Readings
First Day of Classes – June 26		
June 26 – June 28	Unit 1: Studying Religion	Craig Martin (Pages 4-16)
June 28 – July 11	Unit 2: Judaism Test 1	Willoughby Deming, Overview (Pages 269-275); History (Pages 275-300); Beliefs and Practices (Pages 300-324)

July 11 – July 25	Unit 3: Christianity Test 2	Willoughby Deming, Overview (Pages 325-330); History (Pages 330-358); Beliefs and Practices (Pages 358-388)
June 25 – August 8	Unit 4: Islam Essay Test 3	Willoughby Deming, Overview (Pages 389-393); History (Pages 393-417); Beliefs and Practices (Pages 417-448)
Last Day of Classes – August 8		

EXAMINATIONS

There is no final exam for this course.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Deadline	Assessment	Weight (%)
Must be completed prior to attempting Test 1	Academic Integrity Exercise	1%
Tuesday, July 11	Test 1	24%
Tuesday, July 25	Test 2	25%
Friday, August 4	Essay	35%
Tuesday, August 8	Test 3	15%

Assessment Descriptions:

Student Code of Conduct (Academic Misconduct) Quiz (1%): As this is a first-year course, students will complete a short quiz on D2L/Brightspace to help them better understand what counts as academic

misconduct, especially plagiarism. This will not only be beneficial to students as they complete the written components of this course, but also for the rest of their academic programs. The quiz will be composed of multiple choice and true or false style questions. Students will be provided with informative feedback on each of the answers to help them better understand what constitutes as academic misconduct so that they can avoid it. This quiz must be completed before a student is permitted to submit their assignments. More information will be provided on D2L/Brightspace. *Aligned to course learning outcomes: 1.*

Tests (64%): Students will complete a test on D2L/Brightspace after each core unit (Two, Three, and Four). The tests will be available on Desire2Learn for 24 hours on the date assigned for the test. Students are expected to take the test within that period. The test will also be individually timed, requiring students to complete the test in one sitting and within a specified time limit. Tests 1 and 2 will include a written component. More information and specific instructions will be made available on D2L. *Aligned to course learning outcomes: 2.*

Essay (35%): Students will write an essay exploring and analyzing one main topic as it relates to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Students will be provided with an essay topic. Students will be expected to include course content and conduct external research including academic, peer-reviewed sources. Detailed instructions will be made available on D2L. *Aligned to course learning outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6.*

Important Items to Note:

Plagiarism: As with any written work, including on assignments, midterms, and final exams, plagiarism will not be tolerated, and **any instances (intentional or unintentional) of plagiarism will be immediately reported** to the Associate Dean of Arts. There are serious consequences for plagiarizing. For example, in the past, reported students have faced consequences that have included: mandatory workshops on academic integrity, a zero on the assessment, and/or a zero (F) in the course (with no ability to withdraw), among other negative consequences. Please make sure that you are familiar with what counts as plagiarism as it is your responsibility as a student to know:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

Reviewing Tests: After completing the online tests for this course, student will only be able to see their final score. Individual answers are not displayed to students. For students who are interested in seeing individual answers, please email the instructor.

Extra Assignments / Re-submitting Work: There are **no extra tests or assignments for this course**. Students will **not** be given an opportunity to submit extra work or re-take tests / re-write / re-submit assignments to increase their grade. **Unfortunately, these are not options due to the large size of this class, etc.** Please make sure to try your best for each assessment as there are no second attempts.

MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

It is your responsibility to ensure that you complete all assessments within the allotted time. If you do not complete an assessment within the specified time given, contact your instructor as soon as possible. If a student is unable to complete a test due to technical issues (interruption of Internet service or computer, server malfunction, etc.), the student must notify the instructor within 24 hours via email. It is important for students to ensure that they have access to dependable Internet and power sources. For example, if your battery dies, it will not be considered an acceptable reason for failing to complete the test. For students who experience technical issues, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. In the meantime, document your technical issues with a screenshot to show the instructor.

Penalty for Late Assignments: Assignments will be deducted 15% each day (24 hours) that it is overdue. For example, if the assignment is due on Friday by midnight, then the late penalty takes effect on Saturday at 12:01 a.m. Then, 15% is deducted every day (so 15% on Saturday, then another 15% on Sunday at 12:01 a.m. etc.).

Extensions: If an extension is required, students are expected to reach out to the instructor before the assessment is due, not afterwards. **Only valid reasons for extensions will be considered.** For instance, extensions will **not** be granted for poor time-management skills (having multiple assignments due at the same time, leaving work until the last minute, etc.). Time management is an essential skill to learn. For help with building time management skills, please see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/time-management>

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

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assessments. It is not necessary to pass each assessment separately in order to pass the course. There are no assessments that are graded "pass/fail." The instructor will implement a standard measure of .5% adjustment for rounding up final grades. For example, 59.5% will be rounded up to 60%. A 59.4% will NOT be rounded up. Only .5% and above. Only final grades are adjusted (individual tests and assignments are not rounded up). Please do not send emails asking the instructor to "round-up" your final grade. The weighting for the module tests is identified above. The weighting of tests will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests. See the University's undergraduate grading system: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

There is an expectation that all writing is your own (on all tests and assignments). This means that you do not directly copy material from other sources or another person. This also means that you do not paraphrase (re-write) someone else's work in your own words without **also** citing (providing a citation, like a footnote) to show where you found the information. Even when you do provide a citation, you still need to adequately paraphrase the information into your own words. This is very important as plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your work must be your own 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.

All writing (including on tests) will be assessed on both form and content. This means that writing skills are important in this course. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENT

Assignments must be submitted in either a .doc or .pdf file format. Other formats (like .pages) will not be accepted. An assignment may be considered late until the acceptable file format is provided, so please make sure to submit the correct file format before the deadline. Please also make sure that your file loads correctly.

CONDUCT

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour (both in-person and online) that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. This includes interaction over email, so please be respectful. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/> .

Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- **Wellness and Mental Health Resources:** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

- **Student Success Centre:** The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>
- **Student Ombuds Office:** The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk- 403-220-5333