



Faculty of Arts

Dept. of Religious Studies

Course Outline

Updated November 26, 2012

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Religious Studies 201 L02 Course Outline, Winter 2013
World Religions—Western MWF 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm
Instructor: Eliezer Segal
Teaching Assistants: Megan Bartel <megan_bartel@hotmail.com>
Office: SS 1314
Office Hours: M 1:50 pm - 2:50 pm
or by appointment
Telephone: (403) 220-3279 or (403) 220-5886 (Dept. office)
Internet: **email:** eliezer.segal@ucalgary.ca
Course web site:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/RELS201/>

Textbook:

Theodore M. Ludwig, *The Sacred Paths of the West* (Third Edition)

It is also recommended that students have a copy of the **Bible** (containing Old and New Testaments)

Course Description:

“An Introductory study of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.”

This course will present the main features of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, tracing their development from their foundational scriptures—the Hebrew Bible, New Testament and Qur'an—and subsequent developments in their observances, communal structures and ideas.

• **Judaism:**

- Historical outline: The Hebrew Bible, its structure and historical scope (Text: 95-103). Second Temple and Talmudic Judaism (103-106). The Medieval and modern eras (106-114).
- Main institutions: Torah, monotheism, religious law, ritual and ethics (115-141).

• **Christianity:**

- Historical outline: The New Testament, its structure and contents. The life and teachings of Jesus (143-150). The evolution of the Church and Christian theology (150-157). Medieval branches of Christianity: Roman Catholicism and Byzantine Orthodoxy (157-160). The Protestant Reformation and the Counter-Reformation (160-165).
- Main institutions: Worship, sacraments, festivals 167-193).

- **Islam:**
 - Historical outline: The life of the prophet Muhammad (196-204). Medieval and modern developments (204-219).
 - Main institutions: The Qur'an and its central beliefs (220-229). Sunnis and Shi'ites, Sufism, the "Five Pillars of Islam" (220-245).

Course Requirements:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Class test on Judaism: | March 1 2013 |
| Class test on Christianity: | March 25 2013 |
| Final examination on Islam: | To be scheduled by registrar |

The weights of the three tests will be computed as 40%, 30% and 30%, with the 40% grade assigned to the test in which the student received the highest score.

Grading System:

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. Following the final examination, a letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme (standardized within the Department of Religious Studies):

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| 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 | 50 or less |

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. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than **fourteen (14) days** after the start of the course.

Blackboard Help

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQ's about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>. Instructions for using the Digital Drop Box are available here: http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6_1/student/bbbs_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm.

Gnosis

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at

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artsads@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 program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- 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 Block.

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.