

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

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2017

Course:	RELS 201 L02 Jews, Christians, and Muslims
Time:	This is an online course that will be delivered through the Desire2Learn (D2L) learning management system.
Instructors:	Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD; Laura Jurgens, PhD (Candidate)
Office hours:	Craig Ginn: Thursday 3:30-4:30; Laura Jurgens: Tuesday 11:30-12:30
Office:	Craig Ginn: SS 502; Laura Jurgens: SS 542
E-mail:	Craig Ginn: cwcginn@ucalgary.ca; Laura Jurgens: lkjurgen@ucalgary.ca
Telephone:	Craig Ginn: 403-220-5612; Laura Jurgens: 403-220-2562

Required Text(s): World Religions: A Guide to the Essentials. Thomas A. Robinson and Hillary Rodrigues, editors. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014, Print.

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.

Course Description: This course will provide an introduction to the western faiths, focusing on Judaism, Christianity (with some attention to Mormonism and Pentecostalism) and Islam. Each tradition will be presented according to its historical background, cultural context(s), leading figures, textual tradition, institutions, and doctrinal distinctives. 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.

The course will be composed of five modules:

- Module 1 Introduction to the Study of Religion (chapter one)
- Module 2 Concepts and Methods, Ancient Religions (chapter two)
- Module 3 Judaism (chapter three)
- Module 4 Christianity (chapter four)
- Module 5 Islam (chapter five)

Course content will be delivered through readings, audio files, and online documentaries available through the University of Calgary library (Films on Demand).

Online elements for this course: Accessing online texts of the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Qur'an. Links will be posted on D2L. Accessing online documentaries and video recordings. Completing online tests.

Tests: All tests for this course are completed online. Tests are NOT "open book". Students are not permitted to consult any course materials while completing any of the module tests. Each module test will be available for a 14-hour period of time on the date assigned for the test. Module tests are timed, requiring students to complete the test within a specified time limit. It is important for students to take extra care to ensure that they have access to dependable power and internet service.

Do not rely on your computer battery as your only power source when taking the exam. Plug in your computer power cord. “My battery died” will not be considered an acceptable reason for failing to complete the test. For students who experience interruption to internet service while taking the exam, please contact the instructor as soon as internet service is restored. In the meantime, document your location, and the date and time of the interruption to internet service. If a student cannot complete an exam during the 14-hour period of time on the date assigned for the test due to interruption to internet service or computer malfunction, the student must notify the instructor of the interruption to internet service within 24 hours after the test period via email. Students that require a makeup test are required to arrange a time with the instructor. Normally makeup tests will not be online, but will be invigilated by one of the course instructors at the Department of Classics and Religion.

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 and comparative analysis of religion
- the historical context of the western religious traditions
- the chronological development of the western religious traditions
- key themes and teachings in the western religious traditions
- key religious texts and approaches to interpretation
- the development of sectarianism within each of the western religious traditions

Course Requirements:

Assessment	Date	Weight (%)
Module 1 Test: Includes chapter 1 and module 1 course material	Monday, January 23 Available 8 am – 10 pm	10%
Module 2 Test: Includes chapter 2 and module 2 course material	Monday, February 6 Available 8 am – 10 pm	10%
Module 3 Test: Includes chapter 3 and module 3 course material	Monday, February 27 Available 8 am – 10 pm	20%
Written Assignment 1	Wednesday, March 1 Must be submitted to Drop Box by 12:00 (midnight)	5%
Module 4 Test: Includes chapter 4 and module 4 course material	Monday, March 13 Available 8 am – 10 pm	20%
Written Assignment 2	Wednesday, March 15 Must be submitted to Drop Box by 12:00 (midnight)	5%
Module 5 Test: Includes chapter 5 and module 5 course material	Monday, March 27 Available 8 am – 10 pm	20%
Written Assignment 3	Wednesday, April 12 Must be submitted to Drop Box by 12:00 (midnight)	10%

NOTE 1: Module content is NOT available on the day of a module test. Students need to ensure that they have completed preparation for the test before the day of the test.

NOTE 2: There is no final exam for this course.

Written Assignment: There will be three short written assignments. The first two will be a maximum of 300 words and the third assignment will be a maximum of 400 words. Students will be provided with six different themes and will choose **one theme** that they will use to analyze Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Once a theme is chosen, the student will use that theme for each written assignment. With the final assignment, students will also offer a comparative analysis of how the theme relates to all three religious traditions. Students are expected to use their textbook along with additional academic sources (books, journal articles, etc.) to write their assignments. Students will submit their assignments to Dropbox on D2L on the deadlines listed above. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated and any instances of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the Associate Dean.** Instructions and a marking rubric will be posted on D2L.

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

Adjusted Final Grades: The instructor will implement a standard measure of adjustment (.5%) for final 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.

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

Weighting of Module Tests and Assignments: The weighting for module tests is identified above. The weighting of tests and assignments will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests.

Reviewing Tests: The online tests for this course display the student's final score. Test answers are not displayed. For students interested in seeing individual test answers, please make an appointment with the instructor at the end of the term after all tests are completed. At that time, you can review all of your test answers.

Policy with Regard to Missed Assignments/Assessments: If a student misses a test or written assignment deadline due to illness or an emergency, 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 or written assignment and will receive a numerical mark of zero.

Expectations for Email Correspondence in this Course: Please be courteous in email correspondence. Inquiries related to a test must be sent no less than 24 hours before the day of the test. Please identify the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by your full 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 the D2L course site for schedule

information. For inquiries related to all module tests, please contact Craig. For inquiries related to all written assignments, please contact Laura. For general inquiries, please contact either instructor.

Syllabus: A complete syllabus (class schedule) 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.

Academic Accommodation: It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services 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.

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.

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>.

Classics Student Society: Classics Student Society is the Greek and Roman Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: classsoc@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://grst.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/classics-students-society>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us 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 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.

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.