

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

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2020

Course: RELS 201 – Jews, Christians, and Muslims

Time: Electronic Course through Desire2Learn

Instructor: Laura Jurgens, lkjurgens@ucalgary.ca

TA: Justin Nadeau, jtnadeau@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Digital Hours on Thursdays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

Office: SS 502

Telephone: (403) 220-5612

Required Text(s): Ludwig, Theodore. *The Sacred Paths of the West*. London: Routledge, 2005 - Third Edition.

Please Note: The textbook is cheapest purchased online as an e-book or it can be rented online.

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. There is a strong focus on independent learning throughout this course since it is an online course. 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 have a basic understanding of the essential characteristics of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Online elements for this course: Students will access online lecture materials, multi-media materials, complete, and submit tests and assignments through Desire2Learn.

Core Competencies: 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. By engaging with course materials, students will gain the basic information and skills that are necessary for understanding and analyzing the three main Western religions.

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Monday, January 27 th	Test #1 – Studying Religions	5%	No
Monday, February 24 th	Test #2 – Judaism	15%	No
Wednesday, February 26 th	Assignment – Judaism	15%	No
Monday, March 16 th	Test #3 – Christianity	15%	No
Wednesday, March 18 th	Assignment – Christianity	15%	No
Monday, April 6 th	Test #4 – Islam	15%	No
Wednesday, April 8 th	Assignment – Islam	15%	No
Wednesday, April 15 th	Test #5 – Comparison	5%	No

NOTE: There is NO final exam for this course.

1). Test #1-5 (55%): Tests will be posted on Desire2Learn and will be based on the required readings, course lectures, and additional course materials. Tests will be available for a 15-hour period (8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.) on the date assigned for the test. Students are expected to take the test within that period. Each test will also be individually timed, requiring students to complete the test within a specified time limit. Tests are NOT “open book” and students are not permitted to consult any course materials or any outside materials while completing any of the tests. Students are expected to complete these tests independently and are not allowed to work with other students.

2). Written Assignments #1-3 (45%): Students will write three short assignments discussing and analyzing one main theme as it relates to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. **As with any written work, plagiarism will NOT be tolerated, and any instances of plagiarism will be immediately reported.** Please make sure you are familiar with the University’s policies regarding plagiarism.

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.

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.

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

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments: It is your responsibility to ensure that you complete all tests and assignments within the allotted time. If you do not complete a test within the specified time given, contact your instructor as soon as possible. Valid excuses must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation, as per the Supporting Documentation and use of a Statutory Declaration regulation. If documentation is not provided, the student will not be able to make up the missed assessment and will receive a zero as a mark. Late assignments will be deducted 15% each day (24 hours) that it is overdue.

Expectations for student conduct in this course: As this is an online course, students are expected to keep on track with lecture material and required readings each week. There will be a strong focus on independent and self-directed learning. There is an expectation that students will not consult the Internet or outside materials while writing their tests. Students are expected to work independently while completing tests. Students will be expected to carefully and diligently complete their required readings. Students are also expected to complete all the assessments within the allotted time. With regards to e-mail, please be courteous. Inquiries related to a test must be sent no less than 24 hours before the day of the test. Please do not send e-mail inquiries related to dates and deadlines.

Electronic Device Policy: N/A.

Office Hours: I will be holding digital office hours on Thursdays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. during which time I will be available to answer questions by chat or immediate e-mail response. I will also meet with students by appointment on campus, so please do not hesitate to set up a meeting with me. I am happy to meet with students in person and am flexible with meeting times.

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

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; 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/.

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.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

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 <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/> 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 Block.

Freedom of Information and Privacy

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): https://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/freedom_of_information_and_protection_of_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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/> for more information.

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

Health and Wellness

There are services available to students to help with physical and mental health, including the SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>.

Learn more about the Campus Mental Health Strategy here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.

Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided and the student should provide the documentation they feel best supports their case. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.