

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

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2020

Course	RELS 349 Religion and Politics
Time	LEC 1 MWF 12:00-12:50pm ENA 103
Instructor	Irving Hexham
Office Hours	W 1:00-2:00pm
Office	SS 538
E-mail	hexham@ucalgary.ca
Telephone	403-220-5886

Required Textbook and other readings:

Peter Longerich, *Heinrich Himmler*, Oxford University Press; 2015
This is available as both a paperback and e-book.

In addition to the textbook a number of academic articles will be posted to D2L in pdf format for free download

Optional Text(s):

Supplementary texts may be posted on D2L as necessary

Course Description:

Throughout history religion and politics are closely inter-twined. However, during the twentieth century this complex relationship was increasingly dismissed by the media and political scientists as a result of a confidence in the spread of secularization and the demise of religion. Since the turn of this century no one can doubt that a resurgence in the social role of religion is taking place. This course seeks to investigate the complex relationship between religion and politics and foster an appreciation of the dynamic interaction between religious and political beliefs and movements. At the end of the course students ought to be able to discuss questions relating to religion and politics in an intelligent manner.

Online elements for this course:

Information about films and other online sources will be posted on D2L

Power Point policy

Students must not take photographs or copy any Power Point slides used in the course. Where Power Points are posted to D2L to help with revision for tests they must not be reposted to the internet. To do so is a violation of copyright which is taken very seriously by the university.

Sample Test Questions

Students will be provided with selected sample test questions some of which may be used in the actual tests. Once again, for copyright reasons, these must not be posted to the Internet or given away in any form.

Core Competencies:

After completing this course students ought to be able to:

- a) appreciate the relationship between religion and politics

- b) understand why some scholars, like Eric Voegelin, Roger Griffin and Emilio Gentile, talk about “political religions.”
- c) think critically about religious and political arguments
- d) appreciate the importance of concepts like myth and political religion in discussions about religion and politics
- e) make informed judgements about specific instances where religion impacts politics

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Notes
13 January Week 1	Lectures begin		
12 February Week 5	First Test	30%	In class
16-22 Feb. Week 6	Mid-Term Break		
18 March Week 10	Second Test	30%	In class
12 April Week 14	Essay/Blog Due	30%	Due by midnight
15 April	End of Lectures		
Participation		10%	
Participation marks will be based on regular random samples of attendees			

There is no registrar-scheduled exam for this course.

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.

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:

Students must provide appropriate documentation showing why they missed a test or the deadline for the written assignment.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Talking during a lecture is unacceptable.

Leaving a class during a lecture disrupts the class for everyone. Therefore, you are expected to remain for the complete lecture whether or not you like it and only leave at the end. Not staying in a lecture because it deals with a person or subject you dislike, for example Mahatma Gandhi or slavery, is not a good reason to leave a lecture. If you know you must leave a lecture before it ends for an important reason, e.g. a medical appointment, you must sit close to a door and send an email explaining why you left the class.

Electronic Device Policy:

Students must not use cell phones in the classroom.

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>.