

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2017

Course: RELS 373.10 L01 Topics in Religious Studies (Religion and Music)
Time: M/W 3:30 - 4:45
Instructor: Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD
Office Hours: Thursday 3:30-4:30 or by appointment
Office: SS 502
E-mail: cwcginn@ucalgary.ca
Telephone: (403) 220-5612

Required Text(s):

Sacred Sound. Guy L. Beck (editor). Waterloo, ON: Wilfred Laurier University Press, 2006.

Additional online readings to be posted on D2L.

Course Description:

Music, fundamental to many religious traditions, has been and continues to be one of the most important elements of religious experience, ritual and expression. From the earliest musical traditions to contemporary 'religious radio', music has been a critical part of how people have experienced and shape their worlds, including how they have understood their relationships to the immanent and transcendent. From the Vedic hymns to the songs of Hare Krishna devotees or the psalms of David to U2 rock anthems, music has been a deliberate mode of constructing religion.

This course will examine the intersection of religion and music. Several religions will receive emphasis including Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism, and Christianity. To a lesser extent, and time permitting, course material will explore the role of music in Buddhism, Confucianism, and Sufism. The course will also focus on religious music associated with North American movements such as Mormonism, Evangelicalism, and Pentecostalism. Students will consider specific genres of music, including Protestant hymnody, slave songs and African-American spirituals, the blues, gospel music, and contemporary Christian music. The course will conclude with an exploration of spiritual themes in popular music.

Students will be introduced to various lenses used to investigate religion and music, including philosophical (the nature of music), musicological (the role of music), doxological (music in expression of worship and/or devotion), theological (creedal expression in lyrics), liturgiological (music in liturgy), and phenomenological (music and spiritual experience).

The course will be composed of four modules:

- Module 1 Methods and Concepts in the Study of Religion and Music
- Module 2 Music in Eastern Religions
- Module 3 Music in Judaism and Early Christianity
- Module 4 North American Religious Music and Religious Themes in Popular Music

Online elements for this course:

Supplemental course materials will be posted on D2L.

Core Competencies:

Upon completion of this course, students will become familiar with:

- the study of religion and music as academic subjects
- the philosophical inquiry into the nature of music
- the functional canonicity of texted music
- the relationship between lyrical-musical expression and religious experience
- the role of music in religious traditions
- theological-categorical analysis to assess religious meanings in texted music
- the relationship between music and belief
- hermeneutical analysis of lyrics
- investigation of religion and music through various research lenses including philosophy, musicology, doxology, theology, liturgy, and phenomenology

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
January 25	Module 1 Test: Methods and Concepts	10%
February 15	Module 2 Test: Music in Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Sufism	15%
March 1	Assignment 1 due at the beginning of class (3:30 pm)	25%
March 20	Module 3 Test: Music in Judaism and Early Christianity	15%
March 27	Assignment 2 due at the beginning of class (3:30 pm)	25%
April 12	Module 4 Test: North American Religious Music and Religious Themes in Popular Music	10%

This course will not have a Registrar-scheduled final examination.

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.

Policy with Regard to Missed Assessments:

If a student misses a test, 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 and will receive a numerical mark of zero. There are of course many reasons for missing the test that are not considered to be valid, including but not limited to: work schedules that conflict with the day of the test, family functions that conflict with the day of the test, forgetting about the test, traffic congestion on the day of the test, and having no internet connection on the day of the test.

Writing Assistance:

The instructor will not read through or evaluate a student's written assignment in advance of the due date. If a student would like to present a rough draft of an assignment to the instructor in advance of the due date, the student may bring the rough draft to the instructor during office hours or arranged appointment. The instructor will read select sections of the draft and advise the student according to the marking rubric. Do not email the rough draft to the instructor. For assistance in writing, students are advised to consult Writing and Learning Services.

Penalty for Late Assignments:

Late submissions are deducted 15% per day. Students seeking an extension for an assignment must make a written request by email at least 48 hours before the deadline.

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:

The weighting for module tests is identified above. The weighting of tests will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests.

Expectations for Student Conduct in this Course:

Please be courteous toward other students in the course. Please do not engage in behavior that is distracting to other students. For students who raise questions during class, please contribute to the resourceful use of classroom time by limiting the number of questions you ask in each class. While evaluative inquiries are permitted, students are encouraged to steer inquiries toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas.

Expectations for Email Correspondence in this Course:

Please identify the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by 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 final exam schedule for schedule information. Inquiries related to tests or assignments must be sent no less than 24 hours before a deadline. Do not ask the instructor to preview your test answers.

Electronic Device Policy:

Laptops are permitted if used for the purpose of taking lecture notes. Do not use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other nonacademic activities. Cell phones must be turned off during the entire class time. Texting during class is not permitted. Taking pictures in the classroom is not permitted. This includes taking pictures of data projector images and slides. Students that distract the instructor or other students due to the misuse of electronic devices during class will be requested to leave the classroom.

Recording of lectures is prohibited without the consent of the instructor. According to Academic Regulations E.6, "With the permission of the instructor, students may tape record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a Release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered."

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, librarian staff or the Chicago manual of style.

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.

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 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 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.

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.

