

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2020

Course: RELS 383-01 From Jesus to Christ: 100 BCE-200 CE
Time: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1:00-1:50
Instructor: Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-2:00 by appointment (alternate hours by appointment)
Office: SS 516
E-mail: cwcginn@ucalgary.ca
Telephone: (403) 220-5695

Required Text(s):

Did the First Christians Worship Jesus? James D. G. Dunn. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2010.

How Jesus Became God: The Exaltation of a Jewish Preacher from Galilee. Bart D. Ehrman. New York, NY: HarperOne, 2014.

Additional online readings to be posted on D2L.

Note: The textbooks are required as listed above. If a student has access to an online version of a textbook that is without page numbers, it is the responsibility of the student to synchronize the readings with the required textbook.

Additional readings will be posted on D2L.

Course Description:

According to Dan Brown's bestseller *The DaVinci Code*, Jesus' status as the Son of God resulted from a vote at the Council of Nicea where "Constantine turned Jesus into a deity". According to Bart Ehrman – historian of early Christianity – long before Constantine many Christians believed that Jesus was divine or was *made* divine. How does one sort through the 'divinization debate' surrounding Jesus? Did Jesus think he was God? Did he think he was an eternal being that took human form? Did his followers deify him after his death?

This course examines the life of Jesus and engages his profile as "The Jesus of History" and "The Christ of Faith". Beginning with an overview of Judaism, class content will focus on the Jewish background of Christianity, the person and ministry of Jesus, the accounts of his resurrection, the person and ministry of Paul, the apostolic church, and the early Patristic period. Christology (the study of the nature and purpose of Christ) will be explored amidst the ecclesial and social context, including the development of church offices, the role of women, persecution in the Roman Empire, orthodoxy and heresy, and early Jewish-Christian relations leading to the eventual breach between Judaism and Christianity. Students will be guided through a close reading of select texts (in English translation) of the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History* (Books I-IV), extracanonical literature, and the writings of the early Church Fathers.

The course will be composed of three modules:

- Module 1 Concepts and Context: Terms, Methods, Historical-Theological Overview, Jesus in 1st-century Judea
- Module 2 Profile and Ministry of Jesus: Jesus's Life, Message, and Self-understanding
- Module 3 Theological Inquiry: Christ of Faith in Biblical and Extra-biblical Sources

Online Elements for this Course:

Supplemental course materials will be posted on D2L.

Core Competencies:

Upon completing this course students will be able to:

- identify key terms and methods in the study of early Christianity
- describe the Jewish background of Christianity
- describe the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth
- explain the resurrection narrative in early Christianity
- explore systematic theology with a focus on Christology
- explain the canonization of the New Testament
- explore hermeneutical approaches to the New Testament
- analyze the development of theology and ecclesiology in early Christianity
- identify and examine key biblical and extra-biblical sources that inform Christology
- examine early Christianity in its social, political, and geographical contexts
- examine the breach between Judaism and Christianity

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
Module 1 Test	February 7	20%
Module 2 Test	March 6	20%
Module 3 Test	March 27	20%
Research Paper	Due March 18 at 1:00	25%
Panel Planning	March 30	5%
Panel Presentation	April 1, 3, 6, 8, 15	10%

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

Research Paper:

Students will choose from a list of research provided by the instructor. A hard copy must be submitted at the beginning of class (1:00 pm) on March 18. Do not email the research paper unless you have requested permission to do so. Papers that are emailed without prior permission will not be marked and will accumulate late penalties. Length: 1800-2000 words. Do not exceed 2000 words. Assignments that exceed 2000 words will be deducted 5% per 100 excess words.

Panel Presentation:

Panels will be composed of 4-5 students. A sign-up sheet with panel presentation dates corresponding to research areas and primary sources will be circulated in class. For the panel presentation, each student will write a 3-minute summary of their research. Once all of the panelists have read their summary, the students will identify and discuss intersections of their research. Each panel is expected to discuss intersections of their research prior to the presentation. Class time on March 30 is designated as a planning session for groups to meet and prepare their panel discussions. Attendance at the panel preparation session is a course requirement. All students are required to participate in the panel planning session on March 30. Length of research summary: 250-300 words. Do not exceed 300 words. Research summaries that exceed 300 words will be deducted 5% per 50 excess words. All research summaries must include a word count. Works cited are not included in the word count. A hard copy of the summary must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of class on the day of the presentation.

Writing Assistance:

The instructor will not read a student’s research assignment or research summary in advance of the due date. The instructor is available to meet with students to assist with their research design, introductory paragraph identifying task, method(s), and thesis, and to evaluate sources required. For assistance in writing, students are advised to consult Writing and Learning Services.

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, standardized 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.

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 Coursework:

The weighting for coursework is identified above. The weighting of coursework cannot be changed per the University Calendar - *E.1 Course Outlines*.

Policy with regard to missed assessments:

If a student misses an assessment (a test or their scheduled class presentation) due to illness or an emergency, the student must provide the instructor with supporting documentation within 72 hours of the absence. Per M.1. Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration, "This could be a medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc." Except in cases of extenuating circumstances, if documentation is not provided within 72 hours the student will not be provided an opportunity to make up the assessment and will receive a numerical mark of zero.

If a makeup assessment is approved by the instructor, the student must take the initiative to arrange a time to complete the assessment within one week from the date of the missed assessment. If a student is unable to complete the assessment within a week, an extension will be provided if a student provides supporting documentation. NOTE: If a student cancels or fails to show up for the makeup assessment, the student must provide supporting documentation to account for the cancellation or absence.

Reviewing Tests:

Tests for this course will not be returned. Students are encouraged to make an appointment with the course instructor to review their test results.

Midterm Test Deferrals:

To accommodate students that have scheduling conflicts between a RELS 383 test and tests from other U of C courses, the instructor's policy is as follows: A student may request to write a RELS 383 test on an alternate date if the student has two or more other tests scheduled on the SAME day that are each worth more than 20% of their final grade. A RELS 383 test will not be rescheduled to accommodate an assignment deadline in another course. The instructor must receive the deferral request at least two weeks before the scheduled date of the RELS 383 test that the student wishes to defer. Please request accommodation in writing (email).

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

In general, please be courteous toward other students in the course. Be respectful of class time. 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. Be respectful of class space. Be considerate of the shared learning environment. Avoid distracting behavior and activities. Focus on objective inquiry. While critical evaluation is permitted in this course, students are encouraged to steer inquiries toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas.

Expectations for email correspondence in this course:

All email correspondence from students must be sent from a U of C email account. Please do NOT send emails from other accounts, such as Gmail or Hotmail. Please include 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. The instructor will reply to emails on business days.

Electronic Device Policy:

Laptops are permitted during class if used for the purpose of taking lecture notes. Do not use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other social or recreational 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, including picture-taking 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 asked to leave the classroom for the duration of the lecture.

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." Regulation E.6 includes the notification to students, "**Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.**"

Policy on Inviting Guests:

Seating in the course is reserved for students registered in the course. Guests are permitted to attend a lecture if seats are available. Students wishing to invite guests to attend a lecture must obtain the permission of the instructor in advance. NOTE: Guests will not be permitted to ask questions or participate in class discussion.

Office hours:

Office hours are structured in 15-minute appointments. Sign-up sheets for appointments are posted on the instructor's door at SS 516. If a student is not able to meet with the instructor during office hours, the student may request to meet at an alternative time during department hours. If a student requires an extended meeting, the student must make an appointment outside of the instructor's scheduled office hours during department hours. Generally, extended meetings will not exceed 30 minutes and will be scheduled on a weekly basis according to the instructor's availability. Students wishing to schedule an extended appointment must provide rationale in their request, e.g. a list of specific items requiring attention.

Note: The instructor will not be available for office hours after 4:00 pm on weekdays, at any time during the weekends, or during the Term Break (February 17-21).

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.

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>.