

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

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2017

Course	RELS385: Paganism & Christianity: 200-800 CE
Time	Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 11:00-11:50 am
Instructor	Dr. Lindsay Driediger-Murphy
Office Hours	Tuesdays, 11:00-12:00 & Wednesdays, 15:00-16:00 or by appointment
Office	SS536
E-mail	ldriedig@ucalgary.ca
Telephone	403-220-8354

Required Text(s):

- 1) G. Vallée (1999), *The Shaping of Christianity. The History and Literature of its Formative Centuries (100-800)*, 1st edition (Paulist Press).
- 2) M. Maas (ed. and trans.) (2010), *Readings in Late Antiquity. A Sourcebook*, 2nd edition (Routledge).

Please note that only print versions of the readings will be permitted in class, in accordance with the course electronics policy (see below).

Optional Text(s): Additional readings will be recommended in class. You are encouraged to read as much as possible!

Course Description: The years 200-800 CE saw dramatic shifts in the religions available to the inhabitants of the Mediterranean world and western Europe. This course will explore the changing nature of these various religions, focusing on Greek and Roman ‘paganism’ and Christianity. Using ancient sources ranging from letters to law codes, graffiti to sermons, hymns to statues, and temples to cathedrals, we will consider how and why adherents of particular religions experienced their own religions and responded to those of others. In doing so we will be able to reflect on why and how religions change, clash, and relate to society and individuals.

Online elements for this course (if any): Participation in online discussions is mandatory. Some course resources will also be posted on D2L. Please note that lecture notes/Powerpoint will not be posted on D2L. It is your responsibility to attend lectures and make notes.

Core Competencies: This course will introduce students to the ancient evidence as well as the larger themes in the scholarly study of ancient religions, especially the issues of how we should explain religious change and how we should understand religions, the balance between belief and practice, and the relationship between religion and politics, society, and culture. Students will increase their familiarity with ancient sources and how to work with them through assigned readings, participation in lectures and discussions, and source-analysis assignments. Students will also enhance their ability to argue effectively in written work through a research essay and essay

questions in a registrar-scheduled exam.

Course Requirements:

Assessment	Date	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
6 online reading responses (each reading response to include 1 post, 1 response to someone else's post, and 1 question)	Every second Monday (= 18 Sept., 2 Oct., 16 Oct., 30 Oct., 15 Nov., 27 Nov. 2017)	5%	no
1 essay plan (point-form, 1 page min.)	Friday, 29 Sept. 2017	15%	no
1 analysis of an ancient source (1 page min.)	Friday, 20 Oct. 2017	15%	no
1 research essay (1500 words max.)	Friday, 17 Nov. 2016	25%	no
1 three-hour exam (consisting of two source analyses and two essays)	(registrar scheduled)	40%	no

Grading:

Reading Responses will be marked as pass/fail. A numerical mark will be given for the other course requirements. 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: Reading Responses submitted late will receive a failing grade. Other assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (an A- to B+) for each day (not class) that the assignment is overdue. Extensions are not guaranteed; they may be granted only by prior arrangement with the instructor and only under exceptional circumstances, such as serious illness (you must provide a doctor's note or medical certificate) or death in the family. Head colds, needing more time to do the work, or having a rough week do not count!

The registrar-scheduled exam must be written on the date scheduled. In accordance with university policy, deferred examinations are permitted only in exceptional circumstances such as serious

illness (only with official 'Physician/Counsellor Statement' form), religious observance, or domestic affliction (with written evidence). For further details see http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final.

There are no optional/make-up/remedial assessments in this course. There is no rounding-up of marks on individual assessments. Final calculated grades will be rounded up to the nearest percent if the difference is 0.5% or less (e.g. 89.5% or higher would be rounded up to 90%, but 89.49% or less would not be rounded up). In order to maintain fairness for the entire class, I am not able to add extra marks/extra percentage points to final grades.

Expectations for student conduct in this course: Students are expected to participate in in-class activities and discussion. The lectures will provide a guide to the material, but students are expected to read the ancient sources in the textbook, and additional sources recommended in class, so as to build their own independent knowledge of the subject. In the assignments and exam, students will be expected to give evidence of their own reading.

Electronic Device Policy: No electronic devices are permitted in this class. (The only exception is devices needed for formal academic accommodation: you must provide appropriate documentation from Student Accessibility Services). You are expected to show respect for your fellow students and your instructor by not wearing headphones, answering phone calls, playing music, or watching your own videos during class. Recording any part of any lectures in any form must first be approved by the instructor in writing and is for individual private study only.

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available in 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:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

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 <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> 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 Library.

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.