

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2020**

**Course:** RELS 385: Pagans and Christians

**Time:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 am Calgary time. This is an online, asynchronous class.

**Instructor:** Dr. Lindsay Driediger-Murphy

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 pm Calgary time, or by appointment

**Office:** Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom

**Telephone:** Contact the instructor by email

**Email:** ldriedig@ucalgary.ca

**Instructor's email and communication policy:**

I want to hear from you! I am here to help with your questions about the course content and assignments. You can count on your instructor and TAs to log into our course multiple times per week to update material, contribute to discussions, and answer questions.

Questions about Course Content

Please post questions about course content to the Discussion Forum (on D2L) for the relevant topic. If you have a question about the material, other students probably have that question, too. So by posting your question you can help everyone in the class. Your instructor and TAs are happy to answer questions about the material we are covering in this course!

If you need to keep your question confidential, please come to the instructor's Zoom office hours, or email the instructor or TAs.

Questions about Assignments and Course Policies

If you have a question about course policies or assignments, please start by checking the course outline and the 'Assignments' section of D2L.

If your question isn't answered in the course outline or 'Assignments' section of D2L, please check the 'Course Questions' section of D2L. This is where I will clarify assignment instructions, submissions procedures, due dates or other issues related to the course.

If your question isn't answered in 'Course Questions', please come to the instructor's Zoom office hours, or email the instructor or TAs.

If your question is helpful for the whole class, we will anonymize it (so that your privacy is protected) and answer it in 'Course Questions'. We will tell you if we are answering your question there.

### Frequency and Methods of Communication

The instructor will hold drop-in office hours on Zoom on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:30-4:30 pm Calgary time. These will be first-come, first-served. To ensure your privacy, I will meet with you one-on-one. If I am speaking with another student when you join the Zoom office hour, you will be given a spot in Zoom's 'waiting room' until I am able to meet with you.

The instructor and TAs will respond to questions posted to D2L or received by email as soon as we reasonably can. We may not be able to reply immediately. We will handle course communications on weekdays during regular business hours (9:00 am-5:00 pm Calgary time).

We understand that you may work on this course during evenings and weekends. If you have a time-sensitive matter to discuss, please contact the instructor or TAs as soon as you can. I can help you better when you give me sufficient time to consider your situation or request.

If your question is complex or requires a longer discussion, we will email you to arrange a video or phone appointment. If there's something you'd prefer to discuss by video or phone, you can email us to arrange an appointment.

### **Required text(s):**

- 1) *Readings in Late Antiquity: A Sourcebook*. Author: Michael Maas. Edition: 2nd. Publisher: Routledge. 2009. Paperback ISBN: 9780415473378. Ebook ISBN: 9780203544013. Available as paperback or e-book from University of Calgary bookstore and other booksellers.
- 2) Additional readings announced in class. Available through University of Calgary library.

### **Optional text(s):**

The more you read, the better! See the course D2L page or speak with the instructor for reading recommendations.

### **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 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:**

This is an asynchronous online course.

Course content and resources will be posted on D2L. There will be course components for you to study and complete each week, including readings, videos, and discussion boards.

To access the online resources for this course, you will need:

- a computer with a supported operating system
- the latest security and malware updates

- a current and updated web browser
- current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- a stable internet connection
- your UCID

**Core Competencies:**

This course will introduce you to the ancient evidence as well as the larger themes in the scholarly study of religions of the ancient Mediterranean, especially the issues of how we might compare different religions, how we should explain religious change, the balance between belief and practice, and the relationship between religion and politics, society, and culture. You will increase your familiarity with ancient sources and how to work with them through assigned readings, class activities, and source-analysis assignments. You will also enhance your ability to conduct research and to argue effectively in written work through reading responses and a research essay.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
24 Sept. 2020 by 5 pm Calgary time	<b>Reading Response #1</b> (1 page min.)	10%	no
1 Oct. 2020 by 5 pm Calgary time	<b>Source-Analysis #1</b> (1 page min.)	20%	no
22 Oct. 2020 by 5 pm Calgary time	<b>Source-Analysis #2</b> (1 page min.)	25%	no
5 Nov. 2020 by 5 pm Calgary time	<b>Reading Response #2</b> (1 page min.)	15%	no
26 Nov. 2020 by 5 pm Calgary time	<b>Essay</b> (1500 words min.)	30%	no

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam.

**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 regards to missed assignments/assessments:**

Extensions

If you need an extension, communicate with the instructor (not TAs) **before** the deadline. I (Lindsay) will do all I can to help you, but extensions are not guaranteed.

### Missed Deadlines

To help you most effectively and give you timely feedback, we need you to submit your work on time. **If you miss a deadline for a reason that was within your control**, the following penalties will apply:

- Reading Responses, Source-Analyses, and Essays 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.

I understand that sometimes things happen that are outside our control. **If you missed a deadline due to reasons that were out of your control**, you may contact the instructor (not TAs) to explain the circumstances and to provide documentation. Visit the Registrar's Office (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>) for the appropriate forms. If your reasons are legitimate and your documentation is appropriate, the following may be granted:

- extension OR percentage weight for the assessment may be transferred to the Essay

### Remedial Marks

There are no optional/make-up/remedial assessments in this course.

### Calculation of Grades

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.

### Assessment Feedback Policy

Feedback on assignments will be given to you in the D2L Dropbox for each assignment.

I will be happy to speak with you if, after reviewing your assessment feedback for 24 hours, you have questions about how to improve.

Please note:

- I do not discuss assessment feedback on the same day that it is returned to you.
- I do not discuss assessment feedback by email.

If you have specific questions about the feedback you have received, please come to Zoom office hours, or contact the instructor to arrange a phone or video appointment.

### **Expectations for student conduct in this course:**

Asynchronous online learning and teaching is a change for many of us. Let's build community in this class by connecting kindly and helpfully with each other. Online discussions will be accessible 24/7 on D2L: I encourage you to share your thoughts, comment on what other students are posting, and be part of the community. In addition to making this class more fun, this will also help you to think about the material in new ways.

In general, the more you ponder, review, and engage with the course materials, the better you are likely to do in this course. Do the assigned reading. Practice what you've learned through the D2L activities. Do additional reading to build your own independent knowledge of the subject.

Aim to cultivate a study environment that enables concentration and focus. When you are working on course material, I recommend closing other windows and pausing other chats, music, audio, or calls on your devices.

**Electronic Device Policy:**

Electronic devices will be needed to access materials for this class. On using devices, see above ('Expectations for student conduct in this course').

The materials posted for this class are to be used for your own personal study and are protected by copyright (see below, 'Copyright Regulations'), by the University of Calgary's regulations for recording of lectures (see Calendar, section E.6: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>), and by federal and provincial privacy legislation. This means that:

- you must not distribute, copy, post elsewhere, sell, or share **any course materials** with people outside our class.

By taking this class you agree to these conditions. If you have any questions about this, please contact the instructor.

**Syllabus:**

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

**Academic Honesty:**

Academic integrity is fundamental to scholarship and learning. It is a core value of the University of Calgary. Our community is built on honesty, trust and integrity. At university, maintaining academic integrity while earning your degree represents your true academic accomplishments.

Violations of academic integrity are termed academic misconduct. The University of Calgary Student Academic Misconduct Policy states that academic misconduct is any student behavior that compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities.

To maintain academic integrity, instructors and students make reciprocal commitments.

As your instructor, **I commit to:**

- **Communicating** the academic integrity rules for assessments in this course
- **Answering** your questions about academic integrity for assessments in this course
- **Monitoring** academic integrity, in order to ensure fair marks for all students in this course
- **Upholding** standards of academic integrity, in order to protect the value of your degree and the learning of all students at the University of Calgary

As a University of Calgary student, **you commit to:**

- **Completing assessments individually and without unauthorized assistance.** This means that you must not cooperate, collaborate, or otherwise give and/or receive assistance in completing academic activities without the instructor's permission (this kind of misconduct is called unauthorized assistance). Actions prohibited as unauthorized assistance include: working with a study group to complete an individual assignment; getting someone else to write your paper; using a file sharing website to access completed assessment; using Word's track changes in a friend's essay to rewrite sentences and explain ideas; sharing your assignments with other students in the course, or borrowing other students' assignments to see how they did them; asking someone else (including other students in this course) to write, rewrite, edit, or produce content for what you submit. You have permission to discuss ideas and research strategies with other students in this course, but all the work you submit must be completed by you individually as defined here.

- **Referencing the ideas, expression of ideas or work of another individual appropriately.** This means that you must not present other peoples' ideas, expression of ideas, or work as your own (this kind of misconduct is called plagiarism). Actions prohibited as plagiarism include: copying and pasting content from websites, study sites, or file sharing sites; using all or a portion of someone else's work without appropriate acknowledgement (failing to quote, paraphrase or cite correctly); purchasing or otherwise acquiring work and submitting it as your own original work; submitting prior work for evaluation in another course, or in a subsequent attempt of the same course, without the express approval of the instructor teaching the second course or subsequent attempt (self plagiarism). Requirements for referencing for each assignment will be provided by the instructor. 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.

- **Completing assessments honestly, using only the opportunities and material authorized and available to all students in the course.** This means that you must not try to give or gain an improper advantage in academic activities (this kind of misconduct is called cheating). Actions prohibited as cheating include: copying from another student's work; conversing with another student during an examination; having, using or attempting to use unauthorized material or devices during an examination or other academic activities; attempting to read another students' exam papers; obtaining assistance from another in completing coursework.

- **Using only genuine and accurate data and records, and respecting and preserving the integrity of academic results.** This means that you must not create or use false records or data in your assignments (this kind of misconduct is called fabrication) or alter or attempt to alter work or records for academic gain (this kind of misconduct is called falsification). Actions prohibited as fabrication include: creating or using false transcripts, documents, or research results; citing work that does not actually exist. Actions prohibited as falsification include: altering transcripts; attempting to change recorded grades; impersonating another student; manipulating, changing or omitting source material, data, methods or findings.

- **Complying with the instructor's expectations and University of Calgary requirements in completing academic assessments and exams.** This means that you must not violate the rules of academic integrity or contravene academic integrity instructions for assignments in this course (this kind of misconduct is called failure to comply). Actions prohibited as failure to comply include: not complying with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students in completing academic assessments; not complying with the exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

By taking this class you agree to these conditions. If you have any questions about this, please contact the instructor.

#### Questions about Academic Integrity?

Online learning is a change for many of us. You may feel isolated when completing assignments individually. If you do, it's important that you get help from the right place. Please contact the instructor or TAs with any questions you have. We are here and happy to help!

If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, librarian staff, or the Student Success Centre (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>).

For further information on Academic Misconduct, see the University Calendar (section K: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>) and the University's Academic Integrity Handbook (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/9/AI-Student-handbook-1.pdf>).

#### **Copyright Regulations:**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the [Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright Policy](#) and understand their copyright responsibilities. Instructor created content (lecture presentations, assignments, exams, etc.) have been designed for use as part of this course at the University of Calgary and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters and articles) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copyright-protected materials may only be copied or distributed provided it is permissible to do so under [Canadian Copyright law](#), university agreements and permission from the copyright holder. Find out more about copyright at [library.ucalgary.ca/copyright](http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright).

#### **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/](http://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](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](mailto: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](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](mailto: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](http://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 hours per 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/>