

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2020 v.2  
**REVISED for shift to online instruction**

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

**Time:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30-10:45

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

**Office Hours:** by email or phone appointment

**Office:** SS 536

**Telephone:** email the instructor if you need to arrange a phone appointment

**Email:** ldriedig@ucalgary.ca

**Required text(s):**

1) M. Maas (ed. and trans.) (2010), *Readings in Late Antiquity. A Sourcebook*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Routledge).

2) Additional readings announced in class. Available through University of Calgary library.

Only print versions of the textbook and other readings will be permitted in class, in accordance with the course electronics policy (see below).

**Optional text(s):**

The more you read, the better! See the course D2L page 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 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:**

Course resources will be posted on D2L. You need to review these materials and make notes.

**Core Competencies:**

This course will introduce you to the ancient evidence as well as the larger themes in the scholarly study of ancient religions, 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 and

participation in class, and a source-analysis assignment. You will also enhance your ability to conduct research and to argue effectively in written work through an article-analysis assignment and an essay.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
6 Feb. 2020	1 <b>Article-Analysis</b> (1 page min.)	15%	no
5 Mar. 2020	1 <b>Source-Analysis</b> (1 page min.)	20%	no
26 Mar. 2020	1 <b>Essay</b> (at home)	30% (if writing Final Exam) <b>OR</b> 70% (if not writing Final Exam)	no
Registrar-scheduled: 28 April 2020 (optional)	1 <b>Final Exam</b> (at home) (consisting of one Source-Analysis and one Essay) (open book) (no writing-time limit)	35% (if writing Final Exam)	no

**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:**

Extensions

If you need an extension, communicate with the instructor before the deadline. Extensions are not guaranteed.

Missed Deadlines

Article Analyses and Source Analyses 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.

If you missed a deadline due to reasons that were out of your control, you may communicate with the instructor to explain the circumstances. If your reasons are legitimate, the following may be granted:

- Article Analysis, Source Analysis: extension

- Essay: percentage weight for the assessment may be transferred to the Final Exam

This policy applies only to assessments during the term. Registrar-scheduled final exams have a separate policy: see below.

The Final Exam is administered by the Registrar and is not controlled by the instructor. The registrar-scheduled exam must be submitted by the date scheduled. The authority to grant or deny a deferred final examination rests with the Dean of the Faculty in which you are registered. If you need to request a deferral, visit the Registrar's Office website to complete the appropriate forms: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-final-examinations>

### 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.

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

The more you read, prepare for class ahead of time, and participate in online course activities, the better you are likely to do in this course. Do the assigned reading before each lecture. Log on prepared to discuss what you have read. Participate in online activities and discussion. The assessments are based on what we cover in lectures: you are unlikely to pass without good lecture notes.

### **Electronic Device Policy:**

Show respect for your fellow students and your instructor by not wearing headphones, answering phone calls, texting, 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 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/](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/>

**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>.