

The University of Calgary  
Faculty of Arts  
Department of Religious Studies

Religious Studies 417.06 L01: Recent Religious Thought: *Religion and Psychoanalysis*

Winter 2012                      M 11:00am – 1:45pm in SS 1332

Instructor                      Dr. Virginia Tumasz  
Office                              SS 1302  
Office Hours                    M 2:00pm – 3:00pm or by appointment  
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**Required Texts**

Peter Gay, ed. *The Freud Reader*.  
Jung readings – TBA.

**Course Description**

This course is a seminar for the study of theories of religion emerging from the depth psychologies of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung.

**Course Procedure**

The class will meet as a seminar once a week on Mondays. Each student will have primary responsibility for one seminar session, presenting the assigned reading and any appropriate background material and leading the class in discussion about that reading. That person will meet with me on the preceding Thursday or Friday to prepare for this responsibility by discussing the content of the reading and talking about effective presentation strategies, especially with regard to generating and leading discussion.

Please note that all members of the seminar are expected to be active participants at all class meetings. The success of the seminar depends on all members preparing for and attending each meeting and making thoughtful and informed contributions to discussion.

**Course requirements**

5% for active participation in the seminar throughout the term

A successful seminar requires the preparation and participation of all of its members. You are expected to prepare for each class by reading the assigned text and reflecting on it so that you arrive at class ready for discussion. This portion of your grade will be determined by your willingness to contribute to discussion throughout the term, as well as the nature and quality of your contributions and the respect that you show to other members of the seminar in discussion.

10% for two short reports, written (two pages in length) and oral

The first report is due on Jan. 16. You are to choose a selection of Freud's writings of at least twenty pages that follows up on a topic addressed in his autobiographical essay. The report should be a simple summary of what you read, describing how it relates to a particular passage in his essay and how it elaborates or fills in the blanks of what he says there.

The second report can be done for any other session except the one that you are leading. You are to locate a review of or commentary on the work under consideration for that week and write a short (two-page) summary of it.

10% for four written responses to assigned texts (pass/fail)

You are required to write four short response papers, each about two pages in length. The papers will be equally weighted and amount in total to 15% of your final grade. The responses will be marked Pass/Fail. The Pass will be counted as an 'A' and the Fail will be counted as an 'F.'

You can complete this requirement for any four sessions starting with the third week (Jan. 23). You cannot write a response paper for the session that you are responsible to lead or for the one for which you are reporting on a secondary source.

Written responses should consist of critical reflections on the text and the careful articulation of questions that the text raises for you. They should not summarize the text. Responses must be handed in at the beginning of class. In no case will a response be accepted at a later time, as this would defeat the purpose of the assignment, which is to prepare for class discussion by focused reflection. For the same reason, neither will the response paper be accepted if you cannot stay for class on that day.

40% for seminar presentation and direction of discussion

The student responsible for Monday's seminar will make arrangements to meet with me at the end of the preceding week to discuss the material and to develop presentation and discussion strategies.

You are required to prepare a handout for distribution to the class to facilitate your presentation. You must bring a draft of the handout to your consultation with me.

After your presentation, you are required to submit a self-assessment of about one page in length. The self-assessment should be emailed to me by the end of the day on the Wednesday following your presentation. Failure to complete this requirement will result in a penalty of one full letter-grade (e.g., a drop from a B to a C) on the presentation.

Your grade will reflect an assessment of your preparation, your handout, your presentation, and your self-assessment.

35% for research essay, due April 13

In an essay of about ten pages (3000 words), students will undertake a comparison of Freud and Jung on a particular topic and discuss how their understandings of that topic relate to their views on religion.

You must email me a statement of your research topic, including a tentative bibliography, by March 12. Your bibliography should include both primary and secondary sources. There should be no less than three secondary sources. Cite your sources using the MLA style of documentation.

Your essay must present a thesis and develop an argument for the thesis.

In grading the essay, I will take into account the sophistication of your analysis and cogency of your argument, your writing style, and the selection, use, and documentation of sources.

You will be required to present your research conclusions in class on April 2. A penalty of one full letter grade will be imposed if you fail to meet this requirement or if it is obvious that you did not prepare for the presentation.

**Core competencies**

Some of the skills that students can expect to develop in completing the work for this course include:

- careful reading of texts
- critical analysis
- organization of material for presentation
- oral presentation
- effective direction of discussion
- written communication
- independent research

**Grading:**

A letter grade will be assigned to each component of the course (with the above-noted exception of the weekly written responses) according to the University’s “Undergraduate Grading System,” which appears in the University Calendar:

A+	4.00	Outstanding.
A	4.00	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.70	
B+	3.30	
B	3.00	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.70	
C+	2.30	
C	2.00	Satisfactory - basic understanding of the subject matter.
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	
F	0	Fail - unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

**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. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.

**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.

### **Blackboard Help**

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQ's about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>. Instructions for using the Digital Drop Box are available here: [http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6\\_1/student/bbbs\\_r6\\_1\\_student/digital\\_drop\\_box.htm](http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6_1/student/bbbs_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm).

### **Gnosis**

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: [gnosis@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gnosis@ucalgary.ca) or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new 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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Office of the Student Ombuds 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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](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 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.