

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
WINTER 2013**

Course: Religious Studies 681.31 L01: Specialized Studies in Western Religions – *Spaces & Places*  
Time: W 14:00 – 16:45  
Instructor: Anne Moore  
Office / Hours: SS 1324 / T 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m./ W 12:00 – 1:45 p.m.  
E-Mail: [amoore@ucalgary.ca](mailto:amoore@ucalgary.ca)  
Telephone: (403) 220-3288

Textbooks:

- 1) Creswell, Tim *Place: A Short Introduction* Wiley-Blackwell, 2004.
- 2) Osiek, Carolyn, Margaret Y. MacDonald, with Janet Tulloch. *A Women's Place: House Churches in Earliest Christianity*. Fortress Press, 2005.
- 3) Moxnes, Halvor. *Putting Jesus in his Place: A Radical Vision of Household and Kingdom*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.
- 4) Copy of the Christian Bible, NRSV, NEB or Harper Collins Study Bible
- 5) Hubbard, Phil and Rob Kitchin Editors. *Key Thinkers on Space and Place. 2nd edition*. Sage Publications: 2010. **Note:** A copy will be made available by the instructor for student use.
- 6) Nasrallah, Laura. *Christian Responses to Roman Art and Architecture: The Second-Century Church Amid the Spaces of Empire*. Cambridge UP, 2010.

Course Description:

This course will explore the developing field of Place Studies and its application within Christian Origins and Late Antiquity Christianity. Place Studies is an interdisciplinary field that embraces: Human and Cultural Geography; Philosophy; Social Theory; Gender Studies; Cultural Studies; Planning; Architecture and Material Culture. In its most simplistic expression, it is the concern with the creation of place; this creation results from the dialogue between landscape, human action, and meaning-making. Specifically, this course will explore the utilization of Place Studies within the socio-historical reconstruction of early Christianity.

Outcomes:

The course is intended to develop specific core competencies and skills. These will include: 1) critical and creative thinking/reasoning, 2) problem solving, 3) interpreting information, 4) awareness and ability to deal with diversity, 5) responding critically to both primary and secondary materials, 6) creating knowledge from information, 7) communication skills and 8) persuading and influencing others. The seminar format of the course means students will be interactive participants in the presentation of the course material and they will engage in one major research project. One of the major elements of the course will be the analysis of the symbiotic relationship between various research questions and methodological approaches. Finally, this course is coordinated with a 400 level undergraduate course that is focused on the same material. Graduate students will be required to interact with the undergraduate as mentors; this is designed to develop specific skills required in terms of teaching and presenting research in a public educational context.

Course Outline: (This is a provisional outline only)

**Part One:**

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013:

**Place Studies**

Introduction to the Course.

Cresswell, chapter 1

January 16-30, 2013:

Cresswell, chapters 2-4; *Key Thinkers on Space and Place*

**Part Two:**

February 6, 2013

**Application of Place Studies**

Moxnes, *Putting Jesus in His Place*, *Key Thinkers on Space and Place*

February 13, 2013

Osiek, et al. *A Woman's Place*, *Key Thinkers on Space and Place Romans in Pompeii*,

February 27, 2013

MacMullen, *The Second Church*

March 6, 2013

Presentation on Nasrallah's *Christian Responses to Roman Art*

**Part Three: Adventures in Place Studies**  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – April 10<sup>th</sup> Presentation of Class Research on Primary Material

Course Requirements

- 1) Reaction Papers 30%  
*Each student will complete two of these (2 @ 15%).*  
**(Due: January 20- February 27<sup>th</sup>)**
- Suggestions and more detailed instructions will be provided on the first day of class.
  - Each undergraduate student will be presenting material from Cresswell's book and then the books by Moxnes, MacMullen, and Osiek. Graduate students will be required to interact with the Cresswell material and specific material from *Key Thinkers on Space and Place* and then again one of the three other books (Moxnes, MacMullen and Osiek) and *Key Thinkers on Space and Place*. In other words, Graduate students are required to synthesize two or three different academic presentations on Place Studies.
  - There is a written component (10%) of 6-8 pages, double-spaced.
  - There is an oral component (5%) in terms of contributing their synthesis and insights to the discussion in a manner appropriate to the undergraduate discussion.
- 2) Seminar Leadership 15%  
**(Due: March 6, 2013)**
- Graduate students will lead an entire three hour seminar on the work of Laura Nasrallah's *Christian Responses to Roman Art and Architecture*. This book is NOT part of the reading list for the undergraduate class; therefore, it is expected that the graduate students will summarize and present the scholarship and integrate the scholarship into the previous discussions on Place Studies and the Application of Place Studies.
  - In other words, the graduate students are required to teach this class.
- 3) Seminar Participation 15%  
**(March 13 – April 10)**
- During this period, the undergraduate students will be presenting their research in progress.
  - The Graduate students will be expected to engage with the undergraduates as mentors in terms of their research by providing suggestions in terms of sources, organization, argumentation, potential issues, etc.
- 4) Research Paper
- a) Abstract and Annotated Bibliography 15%  
Minimum: One primary source, 12 journal articles, 8 books  
**Due: Wednesday, March 13, 2013**
  - b) Research Paper  
Minimum: 15-20 pages, double-spaced, bibliographical format: MLA, Chicago or SBL) 25%  
**Due: Wednesday, April 10, 2013**

The adherence to deadlines is taken as a serious requirement and responsibility of the students in this course. There will be no Registrar scheduled final examination in this course.

Research Components, Presentations, and Essays: A penalty of 25% per day (including weekends) will be deducted from late assignments. Presentations, essays, and research components must be delivered physically to the instructor on the assigned due date, unless alternative arrangements have been made. Students are advised to keep a back-up of their own work.

Out of consideration for the class as a whole, there is no extra credit in this course.

All written work must adhere to Chicago/Turabian Style Guide. All will also be graded for spelling and grammar, and proper format.

### Grading

A letter grade will be assigned to each component of the course according to the University's Graduate Studies Calendar 2012-2013:

A+ 4.0: Outstanding

A 4.0: Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter

A- 3.7: Very good performance

B+ 3.3: Good performance

B 3.0: Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program.

B- 2.7: Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing grade.

C+ 2.3

C 2.0

C- 1.7

D+ 1.3

D 1.0

F 0.0: All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.

### Recording of lectures:

Recording any part of any lectures in any form must first approved be by the instructor in writing and is for individual private study only. See current Calendar, Tape recording of Lectures.

### Academic Honesty:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity; see relevant pages in the current University Calendar.

### Academic Accommodation:

If you are a student with a disability who requires 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. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor two weeks before the scheduled date.

### Safewalk Program :

"You don't have to walk alone...." Call 403-220-5333 and a member of the Safewalk Team will walk you to your car, the LRT, or any destination on campus. Safewalk is available to all students, staff and faculty any time of the day or night. Look for the Campus Security Help Phones located throughout the University. Please don't hesitate to call!

### Withdrawing from courses:

Please note the information regarding withdrawals and fee refunds in the Academic Schedule of the current University Calendar.

### **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.