

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Course Outline Winter 2013
RELS 685.39 L01 ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION:
IMMANENCE AND TRANSCENDENCE

INSTRUCTOR Katrin Froese
CLASS TIME AND ROOM M 10:00AM – 12:45 PM
OFFICE/OFFICE HOURS M 1:00-2:00 PM
TELEPHONE 403-220-3282
E-MAIL FROESE@UCALGARY.CA

REQUIRED TEXTS

The following books are required reading:

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe *Faust*
Tr. Patrick Olivelle *Upanishads*
Soren Kierkegaard *Fear and Trembling*
Zhuangzi (Chuang-tzu) tr. Martin Palmer -*Chuang-tzu: Basic Writings*

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This course will explore themes such as the relationship between immanence and transcendence, conceptions of authenticity, and the relationship between desire and non-attachment. Western and Eastern philosophical and religious works will be examined. Emphasis will be placed on generating a comparative perspective on these texts. We will also explore different cultural understandings of the relationship between philosophy and religion. **Objective** The objective of the course is not only to familiarize students with these texts, but to develop a comparative approach to the study of philosophical and religious texts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class participation and seminar presentations (40 minutes-20 minute presentation and 20 minutes of leading discussion or taking questions from the class) 20%.

First Paper **Due in class** (15 pages) – Monday, March 4 40%

Second Paper **Due in class** (15 -20 pages) - Monday, April 15 40%

You may choose your own paper topics which are to focus on the texts examined in this course. One of the two papers submitted must be a comparison between Eastern and Western texts we have covered. All papers must be submitted to the instructor at the **BEGINNING of the class** of the day indicated.

Late papers will be marked down at a rate of 3% per day. Extensions will only be granted under *exceptional* circumstances and must be accompanied by proper documentation (i.e., medical certificate, bereavement notice, police report, etc). Computer breakdown is not a valid reason for an extension. *Students are expected to make back-up copies of all their assignments.*

**There will be no Registrar scheduled Final Exam for this course.*

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.

Tentative Schedule

Introduction: January 14

Goethe's Faust: January 21-February 4

Upanishads: February 11-March 4

Fear and Trembling: March 11-25

Zhuangzi: April 1-15

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/bbls_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The 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. 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 3rd 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 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.