

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2018**

**Course** RELS 685.41 Spanish Medieval Mysticisms  
**Time** TR 9:30-10:45  
**Instructor** Dr. Rachel Schmidt  
**Office Hours** W 10:00-10:50  
**Office** SS504  
**E-mail** rlschmidt@ucalgary.ca  
**Telephone** 403-220-6383

**Required Text(s):**

Ibn al-Arabi. *The Bezels of Wisdom*. Paulist Press. 978-08091-2331-5  
 Moses de Leon. *Zohar*. Paulist Press. 978-08091-2387-2  
 Teresa de Cartagena. *The Writings of Teresa de Cartagena*. Boydell and Brewer. 978-08599-144-68  
 Teresa de Avila. *Interior Castle*. Dover Editions. 978-0486-4614-58

**Course Description:**

This course will cover major mystical texts of the three religions in medieval and early-modern Spain: Islamic Sufism, Judaism and Catholicism. We will take into account the respective religious traditions, the historical situation of medieval and early-modern Spain, the development of the traditions within Iberia, and theoretical approaches toward mysticism.

**Core Competencies:**

Students will learn to analyze mystical texts, understanding the religious traditions in which they were written as well as the historical contexts in which they arose. They will be able to write an academic analysis of these texts, using academic sources to support their analyses. Students are encouraged to undertake comparative analysis across religious traditions.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Handed out Thursday, Feb. 8, due at beginning of class, Tuesday, Feb. 13	Midterm take home exam	20%	Required
Handed out Thursday, March 29, due at beginning of class, Tuesday, April 3	Midterm take home exam	20%	Required
Date to be picked	Class presentation	10%	Required
Thursday, April 19	Final research paper	50%	Required

## Grading

A letter grade will be assigned to each component of the course according to the University's Graduate Studies Calendar 2017-2018:

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	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.
C	2.0	
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	
F	0.0	

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

### **Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:**

Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the professor.

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

Students are expected to interact with each other and with the teacher in a civil, respectful manner.

### **Electronic Device Policy:**

Cellphone use will not be allowed.

### **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**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

## **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.

## **Freedom of Information and Privacy**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/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.

## **Graduate Student Association Ombudsperson**

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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

## **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.