

Religious Studies

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The Major

Courses

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(as of 12/5/03)

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 90B: Introduction to Religious Studies

Topic: Topic: Models of Spiritual Authority in Early and Medieval Christianity.

This course will introduce students to different types of spiritual leadership (prophets, visionaries, saints, scholars, both male and female) and various interpretations of apostolic life in early (1st - 7th) and later (11-15th century) Christianity. Examples will come from regions as diverse as Syria, Asia Minor, India, Afghanistan, China, Italy, Ireland, Britain and France: Paul, the Apostle Thomas, the "Shepherd of Hermas," Montanus and Priscilla, Mani, Melania, Simeon the Stylite, Radegund, Gregory, Patrick, Lanfranc & Anselm at Bec & Canterbury, Bernard and Ailred, Francis & the Franciscans & the University, Wyclif and lay holy people.

Instructor: Susanna Elm, TuTh 11-12:30, 277 Cory, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77603

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C104: Babylonian Religion

Also cross-listed as Near Eastern Studies C104.

A survey of Babylonian religious beliefs and practices based on indigenous texts and monuments.

Instructor: Niek Veldhuis, TuTh 12:30-2, 242 Hearst, 3 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77624

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C111: Rhetoric of Religion

Also cross-listed as Rhetoric C131

Consideration of the rhetoric of hermeneutics or biblical interpretations with special emphasis on the mythical, symbolic, and allegorical language as the bearer of persuasive intention.

Instructor: Barbara Freeman 4 units TuTh 3:30-5, 229 Dwinelle

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77627

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C124: The Renaissance and The Reformation

Also cross-listed as History C157

European history from the fourteenth to the middle of the seventeenth century.

Political, social, and economic developments during this transitional period will be examined, together with the rise of Renaissance culture, and the religious upheavals of the sixteenth century.

Instructor: Thomas Dandeleit, 4 units TuTh 12:30-2:00 159 Mulford

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77630

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C133: Judaism in Late Antiquity

Also cross listed as Near Eastern Studies C133 and UGIS C153

This class will examine the emergence and development of classical Judaism, its piety, institutions, thought, and literature.

Undergraduate
Student
Learning
Initiative

-GSI-
Job Listing &
Recruitment

Instructor: TBA, TuTh 9:30-11:00, 50 Barrows, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77633

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C161: Religion in Early India

Also cross listed as South Asian C127.

An introduction to the religions that have their origin on the Indian subcontinent--Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, and tribal religions--as well as those that originated in other regions such as Islam, Christianity, Judaism, and Zoroastrianism. Organizing this material chronologically rather than teaching it by separate religious traditions facilitates comparisons and promotes an understanding not only of the differences among these religions but also some of their commonalities in philosophy, theology, and praxis.

Instructor: Alexander Von Rosplatt TuTh 9:30-11:00 155 Barrows

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77636

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 171AC: Religious Pluralism in America

The premise of this course is the modern idea of e pluribus unum; that is, out of the plurality a unity is formed--the one and the many--or from the many a singularity is formed. However, rather than accept this idea as a doctrine, our goal is to understand it, and to critically interrogate it. Hence, we will pay special attention to those religious discourses that create national unity, as well as conflict. Readings and lectures construct genealogies of American religious culture(s), that lead ultimately to a comparative survey of: Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Asian religions, African Americans, Latina/os, and Indigenous nations. We will also consider the Christian professions of the Ku Klux Klan and the neo-fascist Christian churches. Readings are intended to generate a historicized understanding of religion in the modern nation, past and present. Lectures and discussions focus on the context for religious expression, treating the nation as a religious or spiritual community itself, what has been called "civil religion," "public theology," or "spiritual politics." Readings are primary sources that come from within each example, or each "case study." They are not intended to exhaustively represent the totality of the group, but to present a central and defining case that demonstrates the unique historical experience of each community, as well as those things they share with others--expectations. Students are encouraged to develop analytical, critical, and constructive perspectives on the American situation. What does it mean to be an American?

Instructor: Luis Leon, TuTh 9:30-11, 141 McCone, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77639

RELIGIOUS STUDIES C182: Sociology of Religion

Also cross listed as Sociology C112

The course will locate the place of religious consciousness in human action and then survey comparatively and historically the role that religion has played in human society. It will include a general theory of the nature of religious experience, religious symbolism, and the basis of religious community.

Instructor: Dawne Moon, TuTh 11-12:30, 100 GPB, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77642

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 1: The Upanisads

The Upanisads hold a prominent place in the history of Hindu religious and philosophical ideas. They are the last important section of Vedic ritual literature and, simultaneously, are foundational texts for some of Hinduism's most prominent schools of philosophy and religion.

Through a close reading of translated Upanisadic passages we will look into the major themes dealt with in these texts, and we will acquire experience in approaching a text critically, taking into account elements such as alternative readings and differences in translation. Some previous familiarity with Indian religious ideas is desirable but not required.

Instructor: Luis Gonzalez-Reimann, TuTh 12:30-2, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77645

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 2: Mysticism And Its Aesthetic of The Body

The class will examine literature by mystics and about mysticism from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, and the responses they elicit from a number of philosophical texts. We will explore the ways in which various registers of mystic discourse (writing, voice, silence) transform the very existence of the subjects of enunciation, pushing them toward an experience of the limit of language, of reason, of being. In particular, we will examine the status of kenotic practices (from the Greek kenosis, emptying), i.e. acts of renunciation of the self, of emptying of meaning and of being, while tracing how these very acts are grasped by mystic knowledge. In particular, it is the exteriority of meaning that the concept of kenosis allows us to examine with respect to mystic experiences.

A second major theme relates mysticism to Baroque sensibilities (we will be reading W. Benjamin, L. Marin, and M. de Certeau on this continuum). Placed in suspension between a state of incessant pain and temporary pleasure (jouissance), the mystics we will examine in this course bear witness to the 'wounds' of the infinite. While their contemporaries see them as 'mad' or deranged figures, mystic authors claim to have 'tasted' the plenitude of divine presence as the origin of all being, even though they are sometimes unable to fully understand or communicate this experience. Therefore, the aftereffects of such encounters include radical experiences of negation, of melancholia, and of finitude. A number of mystic authors addressed in the class are aware that existence must be lived in light of this loss and mourning, an awareness that is also quite typical of what has been called the 'Baroque mentality.' As Walter Benjamin reminds us, "The mournful has the feeling that it is known comprehensively by the unknowable. To be named-even if the name-giver is god-like and saintly-perhaps always brings with it a presentment of mourning." How to speak of loss, of existence, of meaning? How to address such loss when one is at loss for words?

A third key topic of the class will focus on the aesthetic (i.e., a theory of affects, of feelings) of invisibility-i.e. the adoption of a perspective that privileges the realm of invisibility, where the mystic subject sometimes is caught or lost. Comparisons will be made among different techniques of contemplation, i.e. between those utilized by the school of Ignatius of Loyola and those practiced by Cabbalist writers. These techniques force the self to detach itself from the attraction of visible objects, and look upon the image of the soul. It is a movement of turning and re-turning that cannot be fully dialecticized, in the sense that the old self cannot be reconciled with the new. Writers discussed in the class-whose essays will be available in a class reader-include Christian mystics (Pseudo-Dionysius, Eckhart, Porete, John of the Cross, Angela of Foligno, Theresa of Avila), Jewish Kabbalists (Abulafia, Maimonides). Christian Cabbalists (Reuchlin), as well as philosophers engaging them (Nicholas of Cusa, Leibniz, Descartes, Jacobi, Hamann, Hegel).

Instructor: Luca D'Isanto, TuTh 2-3:30, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77648

Courses Approved for the METHODOLOGICAL REQUIREMENT of the Religious Studies Major:

Anthropology 158: Religion and Anthropology

Instructor: Mariane Ferme, TuTh 12:30-2, 2040 VLSB, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 02666

History 185B: History of Christianity 1250 to the Present- **Cancelled!**

Instructor: Thomas Brady, MWF 10:00-11:00, 243 Dwinelle, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39481

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 1: The Upanisads.

Instructor: Luis Gonzalez-Reimann, TuTh 12:30-2, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77645

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 2: Mysticism And Its Aesthetic of The Body

Instructor: Luca D'Isanto, TuTh 2-3:30, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77648

Rhetoric C131: Rhetoric of Religion

Also cross listed as Religious Studies C111.

Instructor: Barbara Freeman 4 units TuTh 3:30-5, 229 Dwinelle

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77914

Sociology C112: Sociology of Religion

Also cross listed as Religious Studies C182.

Instructor: Dawne Moon, TuTh 11-12:30, 100 GPB, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 81816

Courses Approved for the THEMATIC REQUIREMENT of the Religious Studies Major:

Comparative Literature 152: Saints and Sinners: Sanctity and Its Discontents in Medieval Europe

Instructor: James Whitta, TuTh 9:30-11, 210 Dwinelle, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 17308

Near Eastern Studies 131: Aspects of Biblical Religion

Instructor: Ronald Hendel, TuTh 11:00-12:30, 170 Barrows, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 61409

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 1: The Upanisads

Instructor: Luis Gonzalez-Reimann, TuTh 12:30-2, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77645

RELIGIOUS STUDIES 190: Topics in Religious Studies

Section 2: Mysticism And Its Aesthetic of The Body

Instructor: Luca D'Isanto, TuTh 2-3:30, 3 Evans, 4 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 77648

Courses approved for the BUDDHISM EMPHASIS of the Religious Studies Major:

South Asian C127: Religion in Early India

Also cross listed as Religious Studies C161.

Instructor: Alexander Von Rosplatt TuTh 9:30-11:00 155 Barrows

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 84021

Courses approved for the HINDUISM EMPHASIS of the Religious Studies Major:

South Asian C127: Religion in Early India

Also cross listed as Religious Studies C161.

Instructor: Alexander Von Rosplatt TuTh 9:30-11:00 155 Barrows

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 84021

Courses approved for the JUDAISM EMPHASIS of the Religious Studies Major:

Hebrew 106B: Elementary Biblical Hebrew

Instructor: Dean Chassen, TuTh 2:00-3:30, 80 Barrows, 3 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 62621

Hebrew 107B: Biblical Hebrew Texts

Instructor: Robert Adler, TuTh 2:00-3:30, 271 Barrows, 3 units

COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 62624

Near Eastern Studies 131: Aspects of Biblical Religion

Instructor: Ronald Hendel, TuTh 11:00-12:30, 170 Barrows, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 61409

Courses approved for the ISLAM EMPHASIS of the Religious Studies Major:

History 109A: The Rise of Islamic Civilization 600-1200A.D.
 Instructor: Leslie Peirce, TuTh 12:30-2:00, 88 Dwinelle, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39373

History 109C: History of the Middle East from the 18th Century to Present
 Instructor: Beshara Doumani, TuTh 2:00-3:00. 160 Dwinelle, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39382

Near Eastern Studies 144: Sufism: the Mysticism of Islam
 Instructor: Hamid Algar, TuTh 11:00-12:30, 118 Barrows, 3 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 61415

Near Eastern Studies 147: The Rise of Islamic Civilization
 Instructor: Leslie Peirce, TuTh 12:30-2:00, 100 Wheeler, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 61418

Courses approved for the CHRISTIANITY EMPHASIS of the Religious Studies Major:

Comparative Literature 152: Saints and Sinners: Sanctity and Its Discontents in Medieval Europe
 Instructor: James Whitta, TuTh 9:30-11, 210 Dwinelle, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 17308

History C157: The Renaissance and The Reformation
 Instructor: Thomas Dandele, TuTh 12:30-2:00 159 Mulford, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39451

History 185B: History of Christianity 1250 to the Present- **Cancelled!**
 Instructor: Thomas Brady, MWF 10:00-11:00, 243 Dwinelle, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39481

OTHER RELATED COURSES:

African American Studies 131: Caribbean Societies and Cultures
 Instructor: Michel Laguerre, Mon. 4-7, 213 Wheeler, 3 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 00587

Anthropology 162: Topics in Folklore
 Instructor: Alan Dundes, TuTh 2:00-3:30, 150 GSPP, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 02669

Chicano Studies 179: Latina/o Cultures and Religions
 Instructor: Luis Leon, TuTh 2-3:30, 118 Barrows, 4 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 13126

Near Eastern Studies 160: Religions of Ancient Iran
 Instructor: Martin Schwartz, TuTh 12:30-2:00 102 Barrows, 3 units
 COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 61430

Peace and Conflict Studies 100: Peace Theory: Approaches and Analyses

Instructor: Jerry Sanders, TuTh 2-3:30, 56 Barrows, 3 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 66709

Peace and Conflict Studies 164B: Nonviolence
Instructor: Michael Nagler, TBA, 3 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 66733

Philosophy 104: Ethical Theories
Instructor: The Staff, TuTh12:30-2:00, 126 Barrows, 4 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 67247

Philosophy 185: Heidegger
Instructor: Hubert Dreyfus, TuTh 11:00-12:30, 126 Barrows, 4 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 67337

Please note that any upper division class appearing on this list will count for the Religious Studies minor.

THE FOLLOWING LOWER DIVISION COURSES MAY BE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO RELIGIOUS STUDIES MAJORS:

Classics 28: The Classic Myths
Instructor: Anthony Bulloch, TuTh12:30-2:00, 2050 VLSB, 4 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 14739

Philosophy 7: Existentialism in Literature and Film
Instructor: Hubert Dreyfus, TuTh 3:30-5:00, 1 Hearst, 4 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 67142

THE FOLLOWING GRADUATE LEVEL COURSE MAY BE OF INTEREST TO RELIGIOUS STUDIES MAJORS:

(UNDERGRADUATES SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS WHEN CONSIDERING ENROLLMENT IN GRADUATE CLASSES.)

History 280F, section 2: Topics in Ottoman History
Instructor: Leslie Pierce, Wed. 10-12, TBA, 4 units
COURSE CONTROL NUMBER: 39583

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