

RELIGION & CULTURE (REL)

Updated April 16, 2013

Note: The department/program code REL replaces the former code 47. Students cannot hold credit in REL-xxxx and the former 47.xxxx having the same course number (e.g., REL-1001(6) and 47.1001(6)).

Chair: Professor A. Welter; Professor: P.L. Day; Associate Professor: M.F. Ruml; Assistant Professor: C. Colorado; J. Newmark;

DEGREES/PROGRAMS OFFERED

3-Year BA

4-Year BA

Honours BA

Pre-Master's Program

Joint Masters Program (see Graduate Studies)

Minor

INTRODUCTION

The study of religion aims to understand religious thought and practices as aspects of the culture and society that produced them. It offers an opportunity to explore beliefs and ideas, philosophies and mythologies, rituals and symbols, etc., that shape the cultures and civilizations of the world both in historical perspective and as contemporary phenomena. In the process of this exploration, the Religion & Culture program sensitizes students to the variety of traditions, commitments, and cultures which exist in our world, both globally and locally. It also provides an environment for students to thoughtfully reflect upon their own religious traditions and experiences as well as to think about issues and problems of modern life from a variety of perspectives.

The introductory courses are open to all students. They provide an opportunity to survey the diversity of religion in either the contemporary Canadian or the global context, or to explore the biblical roots of Judeo-Christian tradition. General interest courses are also offered at the 2000 level, and are open to all students without prerequisite. These courses do not presuppose previous knowledge or background and enable students to focus either on particular religious traditions (Aboriginal, Buddhist, Biblical, etc.) or on contemporary issues in religion (sexuality, technology, new religions, popular culture, etc.). Departmental faculty members have particular interests and strengths in the areas of religion and modern culture, mythology, Chinese and Japanese religions, Buddhist traditions, aboriginal traditions, Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Islam and the Qur'an, and gender studies. The Major program, leading to either a 3-Year BA, 4-Year BA, or a BA Honours degree, is designed to provide an opportunity to explore a variety of religious traditions and topics as well as to concentrate on areas of particular interest. The Department also participates in a Joint Masters Program in Religion with the University of Manitoba.

Graduates who are interested in fields where human interaction and/or multiculturalism are significant factors, such as education, mediation services, social work, international business and international development, employee relations, immigration services and certain areas of law and the justice system, benefit greatly from courses in Religion & Culture.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 3-YEAR BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT	Students are advised to consult with the faculty advisor in planning their curriculum at the beginning of each registration session.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT	90 credit hours
RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT	
Degree:	Minimum 30 credit hours
Major:	Minimum 18 credit hours
GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT	
Humanities:	12 credit hours in Humanities
Science:	6 credit hours in Science
Writing:	Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing, to be completed in the first year.
Maximum Introductory Courses:	Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level.
Distribution:	Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.
MAJOR REQUIREMENT	
Single Major:	Minimum 30 credit hours/Maximum 48 credit hours.
Double Major:	30 credit hours in Religion & Culture and specified number of credit hours in the other department/program.
Distribution:	Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level in each of three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", "Religion and Modern Western Culture", "Asian Religions and Culture", and "Aboriginal Religious Traditions".
Required courses:	
One of	REL-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada REL-1002(6) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible REL-1007(6) Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition
Note:	REL-1005(3) and REL-1006(3) at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000-level.
Minimum 6 credit hours at the 3000 level in Religion & Culture.

Combined Major: Minimum 48 credit hours from 2 different majors with not less than 18 credit hours from each major subject.

Prescribed courses:
One of

- REL-1001(6)** Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
- REL-1002(6)** Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
- REL-1003(6)** Exploring Religion: the Bible
- REL-1007(6)** Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study:

- Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Religion and Modern Western Culture
- Asian Religions and Cultures
- Aboriginal Religious Traditions

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 3000 level or above.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 4-YEAR BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT Students must consult with the department advisor in planning their studies.
Students must have completed at least 30 credit hours previously.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT 120 credit hours

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree: Minimum 60 credit hours
Major: Minimum 30 credit hours

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities: 12 credit hours in Humanities
Science: 6 credit hours in Science
Social Science: 12 credit hours in Social Science
Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.
Maximum Introductory Courses: Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level.
Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level.
Distribution: Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.

MAJOR REQUIREMENT

Single Major: Minimum 48 credit hours/Maximum 66 credit hours.
Double Major: Minimum 48 credit hours in each Major subject as specified by the department/program.
Cognates: Minimum of 18 credit hours/Maximum of 36 credit hours in related courses from one or more of several departments. The cognate requirement may be fulfilled in full or in part by Religion & Culture courses providing that the sum of Major and Cognate courses is at least 66 credit hours.
Maximum total of cognate and major courses is 84 credit hours combined.
Distribution: Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000 or 3000 level in each of three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", Religion and Modern Western Culture", Asian Religions and Culture", and "Aboriginal Religious Traditions".

Required courses:
One of

- REL-1001(6)** Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
- REL-1002(6)** Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
- REL-1003(6)** Exploring Religion: the Bible
- REL-1007(6)** Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

Note: REL-1005(3) and 1006(3) at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.

Minimum 18 credit hours at the 3000 level or above in Religion & Culture.

Combined Major: Minimum 60 credit hours from two (2) different majors with not less than 24 credit hours from each major subject.

Prescribed courses:
One of

- REL-1001(6)** Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
- REL-1002(6)** Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
- REL-1003(6)** Exploring Religion: the Bible
- REL-1007(6)** Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study:

- Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Religion and Modern Western Culture
Asian Religions and Cultures
Aboriginal Religious Traditions

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 3000 level or above and an additional 6 credit hours at the 3000 level or above is recommended.

Individuals' programs will be structured to meet student needs and interests.

Students planning to major in Religion & Culture must consult with the Department Chair after completing 30 credit hours.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AN HONOURS BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT

Entry into the program after completing a minimum of 30 credit hours.

Entry, continuing, and graduation minimum GPA is 3.0 (B) in Religion & Culture courses and 2.5 (C+) in other courses.

The minimum 3.0 GPA (B) will be based on all attempts (including course repeats and failures) in Religion & Culture courses. The minimum 2.5 GPA (C+) in all other courses will be calculated as for the general degree (i.e. F's are not included, and in the case of repeated courses, only the highest grade will be used).

Students in the Honours program must have approval of the Department Chair, or designate.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

120 credit hours

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree:

Minimum 60 credit hours

Honours:

Minimum 30 credit hours, including minimum 18 credit hours at upper level (3000/4000) of which a minimum of 9 credit hours must be at the 4000 or 5000 level.

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities:

12 credit hours in Humanities

Science:

6 credit hours in Science

Writing:

Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.

Maximum Introductory Courses:

Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level.

Distribution:

Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.

HONOURS REQUIREMENT

Single Honours:

Minimum 54 credit hours/Maximum 78 credit hours in Religion & Culture.

Required courses:

One of

REL-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada

REL-1002(6) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions

REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

REL-1007(6) Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

Note: **REL-1005(3)** and **1006(3)** at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.

Distribution Requirement:

Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000, 3000, 4000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity and Islam", "Religion and Modern Western Culture", "Asian Religions and Culture", "Aboriginal Religious Traditions".

Advanced Level Course

Minimum 36 credit hours in advanced level (3000, 4000, and 5000) courses, of which a minimum 24 credit hours are at the 4000 or 5000 level.

Requirement:

Note: All 3000 level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6).

Cognates:

Minimum of 18 credit hours/Maximum of 36 credit hours in related courses from one or more of several departments. The cognate requirement may be fulfilled in full or in part by Religion & Culture courses providing that the sum of Major and Cognate courses is at least 66 credit hours.

Maximum total of cognate and major courses is 84 credit hours combined.

Language Requirement:

Minimum 6 credit hours in a second language, or equivalent.

Languages for Religion & Culture credit

Students may receive Religion & Culture Honours credit (a maximum of 12 credit hours) in approved languages for the study of religion. Languages currently approved are: biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota. Students who wish to receive Religion & Culture credit in other languages should consult the Department Chair.

Double Honours:

Minimum 36 credit hours in each Honours subject as specified in each department/program.

Required courses:

One of

- REL-1001(6)** Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
REL-1002(6) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible
REL-1007(6) Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

Note: **REL-1005(3)** and **1006(3)** at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.
Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.

Distribution Requirement:	Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000, 3000, 4000 level from each of the four (4) Areas of Study.
Advanced Level Courses	Minimum 18 credit hours in advanced level (3000, 4000, and 5000) courses in Religion & Culture of which a minimum 15 credit hours are at the 4000 level.
Requirement:	Note: All 3000 level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6).
Language Requirement:	Minimum 6 credit hours in a second language, or equivalent.
Languages for Religion & Culture credit	Students may receive Religion & Culture Honours credit (a maximum of 12 credit hours) in approved languages for the study of religion. Languages currently approved are: biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota. Students who wish to receive Religion & Culture credit in other languages should consult the Department Chair..

For the required courses in the second Honours subject, consult the department involved.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAM

Students wishing to prepare for entry into a program of graduate studies in Religion & Culture may do so by completing a BA Honours Program, a 4-Year BA degree program, or by taking courses equivalent to a pre-master's year from the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg Religion & Culture Departments.

Students wishing to pursue this option are advised to consult with the Department Graduate Chair, Dr. Albert Welter.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN RELIGION & CULTURE

Degree:	Students must complete a 4-year degree program in order to be eligible to hold the Minor.
Minor:	18 credit hours in the Minor subject, with a minimum of 12 credit hours above the 1000-level
Residence Requirement:	Minimum 12 credit hours in the Minor subject
Required courses:	Minimum 3 credit hours at 3000 or 4000 level
Restrictions:	Students cannot declare the same subject as a Major and a Minor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prerequisites

Most courses below the 3000 level have no course prerequisites. They are open to all students.
One 1000-level 6 credit hour course is required for entry to the Major program.

Note: **REL-1005(3)** and **REL-1006(3)** offered at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Humanities Requirement

All Religion & Culture courses **except** REL-2001(6) and REL-2007(6) may be used to fulfill the Humanities Requirement.

Language Courses

6 credit hours (3-year BA) or 12 credit hours (4-year BA or Honours BA) in approved language study (biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, and Japanese) may be counted toward a Major in Religion & Culture. Hebrew is taught on a rotating basis by the Department of Religion & Culture (University of Winnipeg), Faculty of Theology (University of Winnipeg), Canadian Mennonite University, Department of Religion (University of Manitoba), and William and Catherine Booth College. Greek is taught in the Faculty of Theology (University of Winnipeg) Classics Department (University of Winnipeg), and Canadian Mennonite University. Classical Chinese is offered through the Religion & Culture Department on the basis of student interest. Sanskrit is available at the University of Manitoba, depending on student interest. Cree and Ojibway are available at the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba. Dakota is available at Brandon University.

Graduate Studies

The Department offers a joint MA degree with the Department of Religion at the University of Manitoba. See Graduate Studies for details. Interested undergraduate Religion & Culture majors should consult with Dr. Albert Welter, the Department Graduate Chair, so that their undergraduate program can be structured to meet the joint MA admission requirements.

Courses in Other Departments

Students may include a maximum of 6 credit hours from the following toward the Major, providing the Major Distribution Requirement is met.

Anthropology	ANTH-2108(3)	Myth, Magic and Shamanism.
Classics	CLAS-2700(3)	Topics in Ancient Religion: Early Christianity ,
	CLAS-2701(6)	Introduction to Classical Mythology,
	CLAS-2702(3)	Religion in Greece and Rome,

**English
History**

Mennonite Studies

Philosophy

- CLAS-2703(3)** Magic and Divination in the Greek and Roman Worlds
CLAS-2010(3) Religious Architecture in the Greco-Roman World
ENGL-3905(3)* or (6)* Topics in Biblical Texts and Cultural Studies
HIST-3612(3)* Religion in American History,
HIST-3831(3)* Islamic Art & Architecture
MENN-2009(3) Mennonites in Global Context;
MENN-2101(3) Mennonite Studies I;
MENN-2102(6), Mennonite Studies II;
MENN-2322(3) Origins and Character of Anabaptism;
MENN-3452(3)* Anabaptism and Evangelicalism
PHIL-2232(3) (or the former PHIL-2231(6)) Philosophy of Religion

* Does not fulfil the major requirements of a course at the 3000 level or above.

COURSE LISTINGS

INTRODUCTORY COURSES

Majors are required to take one 6 credit hour introductory course. Maximum of 2 introductory courses may be taken for credit.

- REL-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
 REL-1002(6) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
 REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible
 REL-1007(6) Introduction to Religion & Culture: The Religious Imagination and the Human Condition

AREAS OF STUDY

Note: Courses are offered on rotation.

Note: 2000-level courses are open to all students, without prerequisite.

Note: Except where otherwise indicated the 3000-level courses are open to students who have completed successfully at least 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, or who have received the consent of the instructor.

Note: All 3000-level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6). Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

- REL-2001(6) Elementary Biblical Hebrew
 REL-2010(6) Introduction to Modern Standard Arabic
 REL-2121(3) Origins of Rabbinic Judaism
 REL-2125(3) Modern Biblical Interpretation
 REL-2127(3) Major Biblical Themes
 REL-2131(3) Apocalyptic Literature
 REL-2211(3) Studies in the Synoptic Gospels
 REL-2213(3) Jesus in John
 REL-2302(3) The Age of Renaissance and Reformation
 REL-2305(3) Early and Medieval Christianity
 REL-2702(3) Women in Islam
 REL-2710(3) Classical Islam
 REL-3120(3)/ 4120(3) The Prophets in Israel's Culture
 REL-3125(3)/ 4125(3) Biblical Myths, Legends and Folktales
 REL-3157(3)/ 4157(3) Women in Ancient Israel
 REL-3701(3)/ 4701(3) Issues in the Interpretation of the Qur'an
 REL-3710(3)/ 4710(3) The Bible and the Qur'an
 REL-3712(3)* Islamic Art & Architecture

- REL-3900(3)/ 4900(3) Topics in Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
 REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
 REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
 REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Religion and Modern Western Culture

- REL-2304(3) Crises of Faith in Contemporary Society
 REL-2401(3) Religion and Popular Culture
 REL-2402(3) Fundamentalisms in Global Perspective
 REL-2404(3) Religion and Culture: Religions in Encounter and Change
 REL-2405(3) Religion and Culture: The Multifaith Society
 REL-2407(3) Contemporary Religion from a Social Scientific Perspective
 REL-2507(3) Sexuality in the Religious Context
 REL-2508(3) Images of Power: The Technological and the Religious Imaginations
 REL-2511(3) Religion and Society: The Critique of Development
 REL-2513(3) Health, Healing and Spirituality in Cross-Cultural Perspective
 REL-2515(3) Ecology and Religion
 REL-2601(3) Contemporary Jewish Life
 REL-2607(3) New Religions in North America
 REL-2711(3) Contemporary Islam
 REL-2713(3) Muslims in Canada
 REL-3504(3)/ 4504(3) The Problem of Evil
 REL-3512(3)/ 4512(3) Religious Quest in the Modern Age
 REL-3514(3)/ 4514(3) Religious Critiques of Modernity
 REL-3551(3)/ 4551(3) Religion and Social Change
 REL-3601(3)/ 4601(3) Stories Lives: Contemporary Spiritual Biographies and the Construction of Identity
 REL-3602(3)/ 4602(3) Rituals and Rites of Passage in Contemporary Societies
 REL-3940(3)/ 4940(3) Topics in Religion and Modern Western Culture
 REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
 REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
 REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Asian Religions and Cultures

- REL-2703(3) Religions of India
 REL-2704(3) Buddhist Traditions in India and Southeast Asia
 REL-2707(3) Chinese Religions
 REL-2708(3) Religion in Japanese Life
 REL-2709(3) Women in Asian Religions
 REL-2721(3) Traditional Japanese Culture
 REL-2718(3) Buddhist Traditions in East Asia
 REL-2731(3) Chinese Culture & Beliefs
 REL-2774(3) Chinese Intellectual History
 REL-2775(3) Intellectual Encounters: China and the West
 REL-2901(3) Art in Non-Christian Religions
 REL-2942(3) The Philosophy of Yoga
 REL-3007(6) Introduction to Classical Chinese
 REL-3704(3)/ 4704(3) Chinese & East Asian Perspectives on Human Rights
 REL-3707(3)/ 4707(3) Zen Buddhism
 REL-3708(3)/ 4708(3) Topics in Buddhist Culture and Society
 REL-3721(3)/ 4721(3) The Age of the Samurai
 REL-3970(3)/ 4970(3) Topics in Asian Religions and Cultures
 REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
 REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
 REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Aboriginal Religious Traditions

- REL-2715(3) African Religions
 REL-2801(3) Introduction to Aboriginal Spirituality

* Does not fulfil the major requirements of a course at the 3000 level or above

- REL-2802(3) Aboriginal and Christian Encounter
 REL-2803(3) Aboriginal Sacred Narratives
 REL/IDS-2804(3) Global Perspectives on Aboriginal Societies, Spiritualities and the Environment
 REL-2872(3) African Traditional Religions & the Christian Encounter
 REL-3802(3)/ 4802(3) Aboriginal Healers
 REL-3803(3)/ 4803(3) Aboriginal Women's Teachings
 REL-3804(3)/ 4804(3) Aboriginal Spirituality: Research Methods
 REL-3980(3)/ 4980(3) Topics in Aboriginal Religious Traditions
 REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
 REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
 REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Pre-Master's Courses

Open to all students accepted in a graduate program, students with a Bachelor's degree, and advanced undergraduates with a 3.0 GPA in Religion & Culture. Permission of Chair or Graduate Chair must be received to enroll.

- REL-5001(3) Method and Theory in the Study of Religion I: Social Scientific Approaches
 REL-5002(3) Method and Theory in the Study of Religion II: Textual Interpretation
 REL-5990(6) Advanced Individual Study in Religion
 REL-5991(3) Advanced Individual Study in Religion

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REL-1001(6) RELIGION AND IDENTITY IN

CONTEMPORARY CANADA (Le3) This course introduces students to the religious diversity inherent in contemporary Canadian life. It considers the ways different religious traditions influence and are influenced by the multicultural and pluralistic nature of Canadian society. It encourages students to reflect on the ways individual believers and their religious communities are affected by social forces such as popular culture, politics, globalization, and the economy.

REL-1002(6) EXPLORING RELIGION: THE WORLD'S

RELIGIONS (Le3) Religion is a universal phenomenon that varies in meaning from culture to culture. This course examines the ways religion is understood in different cultures, introducing basic concepts used in the academic study of religion (e.g., sacred and profane, myth and history, symbol and ritual, etc.) through a survey of the major world religious traditions (e.g., Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and the religions of indigenous peoples of North and South America). The teachings of individual traditions, how these teachings developed over time, and differences in interpretation will be examined against the background of the culture that produced them.

REL-1003(6) EXPLORING RELIGION: THE BIBLE (Le3)

The meaning of the Bible is seldom self-evident. It has been interpreted in different and sometimes contradictory ways by various faith communities, within both Judaism and Christianity, who look to the Bible as an authoritative religious guide. The course seeks to explain why the Bible

has been interpreted differently by various religious groups living in different times and places. It does so by introducing students to modern biblical scholarship, which sees the Bible against the background of the historical, political, cultural and intellectual contexts in which the biblical texts were written and interpreted.

REL-1007(6) INTRODUCTION TO RELIGION & CULTURE: THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION AND THE HUMAN

CONDITION (Le3) This course is an introduction to the study of Religion & Culture through an examination of the human condition. A variety of cultural perspectives on religion are examined, including sources from Indigenous traditions, Western Religious thought, the Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam), Religion and Modernity, and the traditions of South and East Asia (Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Shinto). Through a close reading of primary sources, students examine ideas, texts, figures and debates that characterize how religion serves to reflect the lived experience of the human condition throughout the world, past and present

REL-2001(6) ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL HEBREW (Le4)

This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew grammar and vocabulary. Selected prose texts in the Hebrew Bible will be read and translated.

REL-2010(6) INTRODUCTION TO MODERN STANDARD ARABIC (Le3/La1) This course is designed to introduce Modern-Standard Arabic to students who have little or no prior knowledge of the language. Students learn the Arabic alphabet, master basic concepts of case and agreement, learn how to form *id-fah* constructions, and form simple nominal and verbal sentences. Vocabulary and additional grammatical concepts are discussed and integrated into classroom exercises and homework assignments. Near the end of the course students are introduced to classical Arabic for studying historical religious texts.

PREREQUISITES: Permission from the Instructor or Department Chair.

RESTRICTIONS: Arabic speakers and persons with more than the most rudimentary prior knowledge of Arabic are not permitted to take this course.

REL-2121(3) ORIGINS OF RABBINIC JUDAISM (Le3) This course will trace the religious history of Jews and Judaism from the period of Ezra and Nehemiah (400 BCE) through the formative period of Rabbinic Judaism in the last centuries BCE to the time of the Mishna (200 CE) and Talmudim (600 CE).

REL-2125(3) MODERN BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION (Le3) This course begins with a study of contemporary hermeneutical theory, and proceeds to demonstrate modern approaches to reading and understanding biblical texts (interpretation), including the historical, literary, feminist, and social-scientific approaches.

REL-2127(3) MAJOR BIBLICAL THEMES (Le3) This course will examine biblical texts on various themes such as creation, salvation, law and covenant, priesthood and kingship, death and human destiny.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-3155(3).

REL-2131(3) APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE (Le3) This course will begin with a general introduction to apocalypse as a unique literary genre and will examine some of the problems of reading and interpreting apocalyptic writings in the light of their ancient contexts. This will be followed by an analysis of selected biblical and extra-biblical apocalyptic texts.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2010(3).

REL-2211(3) STUDIES IN THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS (Le3) This course seeks to understand the origin of the three Synoptic Gospels of the New Testament - Matthew, Mark and Luke - and the relationship among them. The study also involves a close examination of the distinctive character of these Gospels according to their literary and theological presentations of Jesus.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2211(6).

REL-2213(3) JESUS IN JOHN (Le3) This course analyses the literature of the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine Epistles in their respective contexts. The intention is to discover the implication of the Johannine ways of presenting Jesus to the first communities of readers in their social settings.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2122(3).

REL-2302(3) THE AGE OF RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION (Le3) With the disintegration of the medieval synthesis, a spiritual revolution swept Europe, precipitating profound changes in religious life and thought. This course will examine the impact of the Reformation/Renaissance on Western religious

consciousness, focusing on such seminal figures as Erasmus, Luther, Calvin, and Ignatius.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2202(3).

REL-2304(3) CRISES OF FAITH IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY (Le3) This course explores the five major contemporary critiques of religion, all of which have their roots in the writings of 19th and 20th Century critics of religion. Students will learn about the original historical contexts of the interpretations of religion advanced by Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Emile Durkheim, Max Weber, and Friedrich Nietzsche. The main concern of the course is to examine how these five powerful critiques shape the ways contemporary North Americans understand religion.

REL-2305(3) EARLY AND MEDIEVAL CHRISTIANITY (Le3) This course introduces students to the religious and social changes that took place within the Christian tradition in the first fifteen centuries of the Common Era. Students explore the varieties of Christianity that emerged in this period in response both to theological debates within the church and to political forces in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. This course examines the changing relations between the church and imperial powers, as well as the development of monastic orders, mystical piety, the sacramental system, and the papacy. In addition, several key figures (such as Augustine and Aquinas) and key debates (such as the nature of sin and the trinity) are discussed.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2311(3) or REL-2300(3) or REL-2301(3).

REL-2401(3) RELIGION AND POPULAR CULTURE (Le3) This course considers the place of religion in North American popular culture. It explores how elements of popular culture (e.g., radio and television programs, compact discs, films, videos, and fashion) influence the ways many people conceive of religion and its role in their lives. Through this exploration, students will develop critical skills necessary to analyze ambiguous cultural phenomena, examining both the ways religious traditions are depicted in popular culture, and how religions respond to the values and beliefs implicit in popular culture itself.

REL-2402(3) FUNDAMENTALISMS IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE (Le3) Fundamentalism is one of the most prominent religious phenomena in contemporary cultures and around the world. This course will explore a variety of so-called "fundamentalist" religious movements in contemporary Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. What do these groups have in common, and what distinguishes them from each other? It will also consider how appropriate the term "fundamentalist" is for understanding these groups and individuals and what the implications of this "fundamentalist" label are for them. Several "fundamentalist" religious movements will be discussed in order to understand their relationship with "modernity" and "pluralism", the two traditions to which fundamentalists seem to be responding.

REL-2404(3) RELIGION AND CULTURE: RELIGIONS IN ENCOUNTER AND CHANGE (Le3) Significant changes have occurred in Canada since the 1960s increase in immigration and the implementation of the federal policy of official multiculturalism. This course addresses the enormous consequences of these changes for religious groups in Canada and equips students to understand some of the ways in which groups and individuals (e.g., Sikhs, Jews, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, and Aborigines) negotiate their identities through a dialogue between ancient religious resources and the surrounding pluralistic *milieux*.

REL-2405(3) RELIGION AND CULTURE: THE MULTIFAITH SOCIETY (Le3) The course focuses on the ways Canadian institutions both reflect and have responded to religious pluralism. While French and British Christians dominated this country for hundreds of years, contemporary Canada is characterized by increasing multiculturalism. The less restrictive policies Canada adopted towards non-European immigrants in the 1960s have transformed the status and place of religion in major institutions such as universities, government, and the media. The course encourages students to reflect critically on the place of religion in a society, the Christian and "euro-centric" foundations of which have been challenged by growing non-Christian and/or non-European communities.

REL-2407(3) CONTEMPORARY RELIGION FROM A SOCIAL SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE (Le3) This course will introduce students to the ethnographic approach to religious phenomena, as well as the range of social scientific theories with which ethnography is associated. The distinguishing feature of ethnographic research is the way it involves the observer in the everyday lives of the people he or she is studying. This course explores several recent examples of participant observation research in the context of North American religious groups. As well, the course considers the relevance of the work of scholars such as Malinowski, Levy-Bruhl, Turner, and Geertz for the ethnographic study of contemporary religious life.

REL-2507(3) SEXUALITY IN THE RELIGIOUS CONTEXT (Le3) This course will observe patterns in the interpretation and regulation of human sexual relations in one or more of the major religious traditions, and will explore the implications of changes in these relationships in the modern world for those whose cultures are informed by those traditions. Included will be the implications of feminist movements for contemporary religions.

REL-2508(3) IMAGES OF POWER: THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATIONS (Le3) This course begins in the realization that every act of world construal is fundamentally an act of imagining, with social-institutional causes and consequences. It examines ways in which, beginning in the seventeenth century, experimental science, possessive individualism, global capitalism, mass media, militarism, and environmentalism challenged the traditional religious imagination and presented different paths for society to follow.

REL-2511(3) RELIGION AND SOCIETY: THE CRITIQUE OF DEVELOPMENT (Le3) The course will examine the rise of a secular, capitalist, technological world order in Western Europe and North America, and its impact upon the rest of the world. The contribution of Christianity to this new world order, together with its increasing marginalization, will be noted. The responses of the affected cultures and religions, in particular their critique of Western imperialism and its visions of development, and their alternative proposals, will be examined. The role of religion as a factor which inhibits or encourages social change, in different contexts, will be a main theme.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2512(3).

REL-2513(3) HEALTH, HEALING AND SPIRITUALITY IN CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE (Le3) This course examines the role which spirituality plays in health and the practice of healing, exploring how different ideas about healing and spirituality are rooted in distinct cultural perspectives. Topics covered will include comparisons of the relationship between religious beliefs, the process of healing, and the practice of medicine in the history and current

experience of different cultures, both Western and Non-Western.

REL-2515(3) ECOLOGY AND RELIGION (L3) This course explores the relationship between the religious beliefs and perceptions about nature in the context of Western, Eastern, and indigenous cultures. A critical examination is offered of the ways in which Christian perceptions of nature have influenced the development of western science and technology. As well, the course provides a survey of some contemporary scholarly attempts to relate ecology and religion.

REL-2601(3) CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LIFE (Le3) This course will examine the beliefs, trends, and institutions operative in modern Jewish communities, particularly in North America, Europe, and Israel. Contemporary Judaism will be seen in both its religious and cultural aspects.

REL-2607(3) NEW RELIGIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (Le3) This course will survey alternative religious movements which have recently arisen in North America, some as mission enterprises from elsewhere, others as spiritual responses from within the North American situation. Winnipeg and Manitoba groups will be emphasized. The aim of the course will be to understand the groups on their own terms, and to begin to think about how we might respond to and evaluate these movements.

REL-2702(3) WOMEN IN ISLAM (Le3) We explore in this course the status and roles of Muslim women from the perspectives of the basic Islamic texts (The Qur'an and the Prophetic Traditions). Specific themes include rights and equality, marriage and divorce, seclusion and dress codes, religious, economic and socio-political participation. Explications and applications of these themes by Traditional Muslim scholars (exegetes, jurists) over several generations are analyzed. The course also reviews a few outstanding women in Islamic History and addresses the intellectual and social activities of some modern Muslim women.

REL-2703(3) RELIGIONS OF INDIA (Le3) This course explores the diversity of religious expression in India against the background of Indian culture. The focus will be on the origins and historical development of Indian ideas and practices. These are represented in the dominant tradition of Hinduism, as well as other important traditions originating in India (Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism), emphasizing continuities, patterns, and distinct developments.

REL-2704(3) BUDDHIST TRADITIONS IN INDIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA (Le3) The course examines Buddhist beliefs and practices, focusing on the life and teachings of Gautama, the historical founder, the interpretation of his message in the Theravada tradition, and the development of the Mahayana tradition in India. Special attention is given to examining the scriptural literature upon which these traditions are based and the spread of Theravada traditions to Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia.

REL-2707(3) CHINESE RELIGIONS (Le3) This course is a study of the basic beliefs and practices of the Chinese as informed by the three major Chinese traditions: Confucian, Taoist (Daoist), and Buddhist. The course will examine the development of each of these traditions, as well as their blending into a comprehensive set of beliefs and practices that shaped the common understanding and practice of Chinese religion. The effect of Communism on Chinese religious life and the resurgence of religion in contemporary China will also be examined.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2707(3).

REL-2708(3) RELIGION IN JAPANESE LIFE (Le3) This course examines the religious life of the Japanese people, as informed by traditions deriving from the native Shinto religion of Japan, the adapted traditions of Buddhism and Confucianism, and the impact of Westernization and modernization on traditional beliefs and practices.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2708(3).

REL-2709(3) WOMEN IN ASIAN RELIGIONS (Le3) The course examines the experiences of women in several Asian cultures (e.g., Indian, Chinese, Japanese), and in several religious traditions (e.g., Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism). The course is intended as a comprehensive introduction to women's experience in both pre-modern and modern contexts, with attention to how women are perceived and perceive themselves in religious and cultural roles.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2709(3).

REL-2710(3) CLASSICAL ISLAM (Le3) This course focuses on the religious tradition of Islam from its inception through the medieval period. The message and the style of the Qur'an are examined, and Muhammad's life and experience as a prophet are traced. The fundamental beliefs and major practices of Islam are critically explored. The course also examines the emergence of religious, political and legal institutions in the early centuries of Islam. In addition, attention is given to theological, philosophical and mystical interpreters of Islamic ethos, with particular reference to specific scholarly interpretations from different regions of the Islamic world.

REL-2711(3) CONTEMPORARY ISLAM (Le3) This course explores Islam as a faith and way of life in the modern context. Examples of Muslim approaches to modernity in general are examined, and modern interpretations of selected Qur'anic themes are studied. Themes such as gender equality and the freedom of women, and their implications for contemporary Islam, are discussed. The course traces the activities and opinions of Muslim organizations from the Muslim world. In addition, it assesses the current status of Islam in North America.

RESTRICTIONS: Students cannot receive credit for both this course and the former REL-2701(3).

REL-2713(3) MUSLIMS IN CANADA (Le3) This course provides an historical overview of the Muslim community in Canada. The rise and development of Islamic institutions, organizations, associations, and forms of leadership are examined. In addition, Islamic identity, religious lifestyle, Islamic education, and the range of challenges facing Muslims living in Canada are discussed.

REL-2715(3) AFRICAN RELIGIONS (Le3) Africans have, for long, practiced several closely related but diverse religions. This course surveys African Religions taking into account this religious plurality. Certain themes, including, cosmology and mythology, monotheism and polytheism, divinity and experience, rituals, etc., are discussed. Selected African Religions are introduced, briefly, highlighting these themes according to geographical locations (mainly in the sub-Sahara). Detailed treatment of one or more religions from each region is provided. For current concerns, this course critically studies selected works by scholars of African religions on various topics (from theory and method to roles of women).

REL-2718(3) BUDDHIST TRADITIONS IN EAST ASIA (Le3) This course traces the historical development of Mahayana (Great Vehicle) Buddhism in East Asia, focusing on the founding of East Asian Buddhist traditions in China,

and their transmission to Korea and Japan. The course introduces the major beliefs and practices associated with East Asian Buddhism, the schools, figures, and texts that form the traditions that have flourished in East Asian countries. In addition to Chinese Buddhist developments, the course examines the adaptation of Chinese Buddhist traditions in Korea and Japan.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2718(3).

REL-2721(3) TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CULTURE This course surveys traditional Japanese culture through an exploration of visual and dramatic arts, literature, philosophy, and religion. Special emphasis is placed on cross-cultural roots that bridged Japan with its neighbouring countries in East Asia. The historical foundations of popular Japanese contemporary culture—Manga, Anime, and high technology to name a few—are also discussed.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2721(3).

REL-2731(3) CHINESE CULTURE & BELIEFS (Le3) Chinese Culture and Beliefs focuses on Chinese traditions and values that have influenced modern Chinese society. This course is introductory and requires no prior knowledge of Chinese language and history. All the texts in this course are in English. Students in the course discover ways in which cultural representations in social life, customs, business practice, literature, and art have affected and are being affected by beliefs. Through lecture and guided discussion students better understand how traditions and beliefs continue to inform about Chinese culture today.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2731(3).

REL-2774 CHINESE INTELLECTUAL HISTORY (Le3) This course explores the intellectual history of China, focusing on developments before the Qing Dynasty (1644). Leading intellectual currents of Chinese thought are examined within the historical contexts that produced them. Special attention is given to interactions and debates within and between the traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2774(3).

REL-2775 INTELLECTUAL ENCOUNTERS: CHINA & THE WEST (Le3) In this course, intellectual encounters between China and the West from the 17th century to the present are examined in order to gain an understanding of China's search for identity. Topics include Chinese reactions to and adaptations of Western ideas, the ongoing validity of native traditions and institutions, the threat posed by Westernization and modernization, and the influence that these have had on the development of modern China.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 2775(3).

REL-2801(3) INTRODUCTION TO ABORIGINAL SPIRITUALITY (Le3) This course provides an introduction to the plurality of Aboriginal religious traditions in North America and the diversity, complexity, and vitality of these traditions. Included in the course content is an understanding of traditional ceremonies, cosmology or worldview, creation stories and other narrative forms, cultural values, healers, and medicine. Special attention is given to Anishinaabe, Omushkego, and Dakota traditions.

REL-2802(3) ABORIGINAL AND CHRISTIAN ENCOUNTER (Le3) This course explores Aboriginal Spirituality in the context of the encounter between Christianity and the traditional religions of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada and the United States from first contact

to the present. Topics include missionary societies, residential schools, historical and contemporary responses to the Christian tradition, issues related to Aboriginal identity and issues arising out of the Aboriginal and Christian encounter. Special attention is given to Anishinaabe, Ojibwe and Dakota traditions.

RESTRICTIONS: Students cannot receive credit for both this course and REL-2805(3).

REL-2803(3) ABORIGINAL SACRED NARRATIVES (Le3)

In Aboriginal traditions, storytelling is an important means by which cultural values, traditional knowledge and worldviews are taught. In this course, students are introduced to the vast corpus of sacred narratives found in Aboriginal religious traditions in the Americas. Narratives are examined to identify mythic themes/story types, human and non-human characters, cultural values, and traditional teachings. Aboriginal and academic concepts are used to understand the importance and meaning of sacred narratives. Methodological and interpretive issues in the study of myth are explored.

REL-2804(3) GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON ABORIGINAL SOCIETIES, SPIRITUALITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (Le3)

This course explores the spiritual traditions of aboriginal cultures throughout the world. For example, we examine the role of elders and shamans in various aboriginal societies, their understandings of the environment in which they live, and their various expressions of spirituality. The course discusses the recognition of aboriginal rights at the United Nations and its implications for preserving land, cultures and spiritualities. Finally, students reflect on the effect of development on Indigenous lands and how that is affecting aboriginal societies and their traditional belief systems.

CROSS LISTED: International Development Studies IDS-2804(3).

REL-2872 African Traditional Religions & Christian Encounter (Le3)

This course introduces students to the historical and contemporary encounter between African Traditional Religion (ATR) and Christianity. It includes an examination of how adherents of ATR have integrated the Christian message into their own cultural and religious contexts in the form of mission and African Initiated/Indigenous/Independent Churches (AIC). This course also explores the nature of religious pluralism and dialogue in the African context. Finally, it examines how Christianity has joined ATR in confronting a range of social issues and conflicts that have emerged in Africa in the postcolonial era.

REL-2901(3) ART IN NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS (Le3)

This course explores the intrinsic links within non-Christian religious traditions between beliefs and social systems and the art produced in those contexts. We examine different traditions, regions, and eras, in religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Aboriginal Spirituality, and media such as architecture, decorative arts, painting, and sculpture. Students explore art's implicit and explicit messages about the religious beliefs of its producing society, the function of art in particular religions, and how one "reads" religious art. We investigate the impact of social, economic, and power structures on religious art, and the role of patronage in art production.

CROSS LISTED: History HIST-2802(3).

REL-2942(3) THE PHILOSOPHY OF YOGA (Le3) In this course students become acquainted with the dualistic philosophy of Vedanta and classical yoga through their study of the Bhagavad Gita and Patangali's Yoga Sutras. Students also examine the practices and teachings of the non-dualistic philosophy of Kashmir Shaivism as an evolution of the earlier teachings. The Siva Sutras are used to exemplify

and illustrate these teachings. This course is taught using a mixture of lectures, group discussions and individual Yogic exercises / practices.

REL-3007(6) INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL

CHINESE(Le3) This course introduces students to Classical Chinese language grammar, style, and the use of traditional characters, through the reading of excerpts from traditional Chinese literature, the basis from which all forms of the Classical Chinese writing system, in Japan and Korea as well as China, developed. Special attention is given to texts from ancient China's intellectual and religious traditions, Confucianism and Daoism (Taoism). The course assumes no prior knowledge of Chinese.

RESTRICTIONS: Not available to students with prior training in Classical Chinese. Students may not receive credit for this course and the former REL-2007(6)

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 3007(6).

REL-3120(3) / REL-4120(3) THE PROPHETS IN ISRAEL'S CULTURE (S3)

This course is a study of the biblical prophetic literature in its social and religious context, paying attention to the prophets' perspectives on social, political, theological, and moral concerns.

PREREQUISITES: Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3120(3) and REL-4120(3). Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-3121(3) or REL-3122(3).

REL-3125(3) / REL-4125(3) BIBLICAL MYTHS, LEGENDS

AND FOLKTALES (S3) This seminar course begins by surveying major cross-cultural approaches to the study of myths, legends, and folktales. These approaches are then applied to biblical stories such as the Garden of Eden, flood, ancestor stories, and exodus traditions.

PREREQUISITES: REL-1003(6) or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3125(3) and REL-4125(3).

REL-3157(3) / REL-4157(3) WOMEN IN ANCIENT ISRAEL

(S3) This course examines the roles and status of women in ancient Israelite culture and religion. Topics to be treated include women in myth and other genres of traditional narrative, the female life-cycle, and women in law, politics, priesthood, and prophecy.

PREREQUISITES: One of: REL-1003(6), REL-2111(6), REL-2125(3), WGS.1232(6), or permission of the instructor.

Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3157(3) and REL-4157(3).

REL-3504(3) / REL-4504(3) THE PROBLEM OF EVIL (S3)

In this seminar, we explore some of the ways Christians, Jews, and Muslims have conceptualized evil and responded to the problem of evil throughout history. In order better to understand this perennial religious problem, we consider selections from ancient scriptures, philosophical explanations, theological responses to catastrophes such as the Holocaust, and the depictions of evil in North American popular culture.

PREREQUISITES: 6 Credit hours in Religion & Culture or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3504(3) and REL-4504(3).

REL-3512(3) / REL-4512(3) RELIGIOUS QUEST IN THE

MODERN AGE (S3) Students in this course explore contemporary literature against the cultural and political background that produced these kinds of fiction. Students examine the ways in which these books rely on traditional explicitly religious themes as well as broader modern and post-modern concerns such as the question of selfhood, the search for freedom, the grappling with death, and the search for meaning. Authors may include Joseph Conrad, Franz Kafka, Dionne Brand, Arundhati Roy, Shauna Singh Baldwin, Albert Camus, Carol Shields, Rohinton Mistry, Umberto Eco, Yann Martel, Joy Kogawa, Jonathan Franzen, and Margaret Atwood.

PREREQUISITES: 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3512(3) and REL-4512(3). Students may not receive credit for both this course and the former REL-3511(6).

REL-3514(3) / 4514(3) RELIGIOUS CRITIQUES OF

MODERNITY (S3) This seminar course explores the phenomenon of "modernity" through the eyes of contemporary religious thinkers e.g. Hannah Arendt and Charles Taylor. Students explore a range of interconnected questions: What is modernity? What does it mean to say that the modern world is "secular"? How do modern phenomena, such as technology and bureaucracy, influence contemporary moral and political life? How does religion contribute—constructively or problematically—to the phenomenon of modernity? How does modernity impinge on the lives of modern religionists? Is it appropriate to speak of "modernity" or a multiplicity of "modernities"? The course engages these questions and related themes.

Prerequisites: 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture or Permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3504(3) and REL-4504(3).

REL-3551(3) / REL-4551(3) RELIGION AND SOCIAL

CHANGE (S3) This is a study of the role of religion in promoting or restricting social change in two contexts: first, where a traditional religion and society exist; second, where the traditional relationship between religion and society has been significantly influenced by external religious, ideological, or social factors.

PREREQUISITES: Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3551(3) and REL-4551(3).

REL-3601(3) / REL-4601(3) STORIED LIVES: CONTEMPORARY SPIRITUAL BIOGRAPHIES AND THE

CONSTRUCTION OF IDENTITY (S3) This course presents the current social scientific reflection on the "life history" as a means of understanding individuals and contextualizing the larger notions of "religious traditions" and "culture". Specifically, it considers the ways people construct and maintain their religious identities by weaving their own experiences into a narrative which includes other individuals and institutions. In addition to considering this method theoretically, students have an opportunity to employ this tool in the context of fieldwork.

PREREQUISITES: Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission. 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture or Permission of the instructor.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3601(3) and REL-4601(3).

REL-3602(3) / REL-4602(3) RITUALS AND RITES OF PASSAGE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY (S3)

This course will allow students to explore the nature and role of

rituals and rites of passage in contemporary society. We will spend most of our time engaged in a collective exploration of common rituals (communion, puja), and rites of passage (weddings, funerals, bar/bat mitzvah) as they are found in North America. We will reflect upon the structures, meanings, and purposes of the events we discuss. We will also consider the ways the rituals and rites of passage we examine are related to the surrounding culture.

PREREQUISITES: Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission. 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture or permission of the instructor.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3602(3) and REL-4602(3).

REL-3701(3) / REL-4701(3) ISSUES IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE QUR'AN (S3)

In this seminar, some of the issues pertaining to Qur'anic interpretation (exegesis) are discussed. After gaining an understanding of the book as a scripture, the history and the development of its exegetical venture is traced. Approaches of both classical and modern Muslim commentators on the Qur'an are explored. The Orientalists' approach to the Qur'an and its interpretation is also examined. For practical concerns, this course deals with the interpretation of the Qur'an in a broader context. Examples include the Qur'anic commentaries on Moses and Jesus.

PREREQUISITE: REL-1002(6) or REL-2701(3) or REL-2702(3) or REL-2710(3) or REL-2711(3) or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3701(3) and REL-4701(3). Students cannot receive credit for this course and the former REL-3701(3) Topics in Islam.

REL-3704(3) / REL-4704(3) Chinese & East Asian

Perspectives on Human Rights This course focuses on conceptions of human rights in the Chinese and East Asian cultural context. While human rights notions are accepted and appreciated in many parts of Asia, the origins of human rights are rooted in Western intellectual discourses centering on notions of the individual and individual autonomy. Asian traditions are, as a rule, conceived on communitarian frameworks where individuality is subsumed within a framework defined by the needs of a community, however defined. The course explores the diversity of Asian views on this topic, with a focus on those emanating from Chinese culture.

PREREQUISITE: At least one non-language course in EALC, or permission of instructor.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3704(3) and REL-4704(3).

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 3704(3) / 4704(3), Human Rights & Global Studies HRGS 3311(3).

REL-3707(3) / REL-4707(3) ZEN BUDDHISM & EAST ASIAN CULTURE (S3)

This course examines the history of Zen (Chinese Chan) Buddhism against the background of East Asian culture and its Buddhist heritage. The course features an examination of classical Zen texts (in translation), contrasting traditional interpretations with those of contemporary scholars.

PREREQUISITES: One of REL-1002(6), REL-2703(3), REL-2704(3), REL-2707(3), REL-2708(3) or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3707(3) and REL-4707(3).

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 3707(3) / 4707(3).

REL-3708(3) / REL-4708(3) TOPICS IN BUDDHIST CULTURE AND SOCIETY (S3)

This course explores topics

of contemporary interest regarding the study of Buddhism and society, examining major issues facing Buddhism in the Asian context, focusing on aspects of the institutional, social, and political role played by Buddhism. May be taken for credit more than once, with permission of instructor. Topics may include: Buddhism and Tibetan identity in the struggle for Tibetan autonomy in China, the Buddhist monastic institution and its role in society, and debates over the interpretation of Buddhism in modern Asian countries.

PREREQUISITES: One of REL-1002(6), REL-2704(3), REL-2705(3), REL-2707(3), REL-2708(3), REL-2709(3), REL-2718(3), or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3708(3) and REL-4708(3), unless it is for a different topic

REL-3710(3) / REL-4710(3) THE BIBLE AND THE QUR'AN (S3)

This course utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to explore the relationship between the Bible and the Qur'an. Themes (such as creation, prophecy, divine law, rituals and holy war) common to both texts, are examined in the context of the interpretation of these themes by Jewish, Christian and Muslim scholars (such as Jacob Neusner, William Brinner, F. E. Peters, Charles Adams and Raji al-Faruqi).

PREREQUISITES: REL-1002(6) or REL-2701(3) or REL-2702(3) or REL-2710(3) or REL-2711(3) or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3710(3) and REL-4710(3).

REL-3712(3) ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE (Le, S3) This course examines Islamic art and architecture from the rise of Islam in the seventh century to the nineteenth century, concentrating on the period 1250-1800. The course also considers cross-cultural influences and contrasts between the Islamic world and Europe. Topics include the 'reluctance' towards figural imagery, regional mosque architecture, and book illumination. Dynasties include Timurid, Safavid, Ottoman, Mamluk, and Mughal.

CROSS LISTED: HIST-3831

REL-3721(3) / REL-4721(3) THE AGE OF THE SAMURAI (S3)

"Samurai" often evokes an image of a warrior entranced in the Bushido code, ready to commit harakiri upon command. This course demystifies such an aura surrounding Japan's warrior class by exploring their rise from Heian temple servants to Sengoku warlords and then their fall from Edo Japan's intellectuals and bureaucrats to the realms of the destitute. Sources include samurai autobiographies, their intellectual scholarship, and representations of samurai in contemporary popular culture.

Prerequisites: EALC/REL-2721 or permission of the instructor.

Prerequisites: EALC/REL-2721 or permission of the instructor.

Cross Listed: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC-3721(3) / 4721(3).

REL-3802(3) / REL-4802(3) ABORIGINAL HEALERS (S3) This course focuses on the religious/spiritual leaders who are often referred to as medicine men/women or shamans.

These individuals primarily function as healers but may also serve as Elders, prophets, priests, philosophers, intellectuals, mystics, artists, poets, and musicians, among other roles. This course examines the historical and contemporary place of these highly respected persons in Aboriginal religious traditions.

PREREQUISITES: One of REL-2801(3), REL-2802(3), REL-2803(3), or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3802(3) and REL-4802(3). Students may not receive credit for both this course and REL-2808(3).

REL-3803(3) / REL-4803(3) ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S

TEACHINGS (S3) Aboriginal worldviews and ceremonies are, in general, gender inclusive. However, certain ceremonies and teachings, often referred to as "women's teachings," are specific to Aboriginal women. In addition, due to historical circumstances, the importance of women in worldview and ceremony has often been overlooked or sublimated in the written sources. This course examines the teachings, ceremonies, and issues related to Aboriginal women. Written sources by and about Aboriginal women and Aboriginal women's teachings are examined and local Aboriginal women Elders and traditional people are invited to speak to the class as oral sources.

PREREQUISITES: One of REL-2801(3), REL-2802(3), REL-2803(3), or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3803(3) and REL-4803(3).

REL-3804(3) / REL-4804(3) ABORIGINAL SPIRITUALITY:

RESEARCH METHODS (S3) This course focuses on research methods and sources for the study of Aboriginal spirituality. Sources include published and unpublished written material and oral narratives. Critical perspectives and ethical issues related to the study of Aboriginal spirituality and research with Elders and Aboriginal people are examined. Guidelines established by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council related to the development of an "Aboriginal Research Paradigm, or a decolonizing approach to research and scholarship" are discussed. During the term, students develop their own research projects in consultation with the professor.

PREREQUISITES: One of REL-2801(3), REL-2802(3), REL-2803(3) or permission of instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have Departmental permission.

RESTRICTIONS: Students may not receive credit for both REL-3804(3) and REL-4804(3).

REL-3900(3) / 4900(3) TOPICS IN HISTORICAL JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, OR ISLAM (S3)

This course studies specific topics in the Historical Judaism, Christianity, or Islam area of study at an advanced level. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies. Students enrolled at the 4000 level are typically assigned a heavier workload in terms of assignments and are expected to perform at a more advanced level. Students should consult the department regarding potential offerings in a given year.

Prerequisites: 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, 3 of which must be in the Historical Judaism, Christianity, or Islam area of study, or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

REL-3940(3) / 4940(3) TOPICS IN RELIGION AND

MODERN WESTERN CULTURE (S3) This course explores specific topics in the Religions and Modern Western Culture area of study at an advanced level. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies. Students enrolled at the 4000 level are typically assigned a heavier workload in terms of assignments and are expected to perform at a more advanced level. Students should consult the department regarding potential offerings in a given year.

PREREQUISITES: 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, 3 of which must be in the Religions and Modern Western Culture area of study, or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

REL-3970(3) / 4970(3) TOPICS IN ASIAN RELIGIONS AND CULTURES (S3)

This course explores specific topics in the Asian Religions and Cultures area of study at an advanced level. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies. Students enrolled at the 4000 level are typically assigned a heavier workload in terms of assignments and are expected to perform at a more advanced level. Students should consult the department regarding potential offerings in a given year.

PREREQUISITES: 6 credit hours in East Asian Languages and Cultures or 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, 3 of which must be in the Asian Religions and Cultures area of study, or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

CROSS LISTED: East Asian Languages and Cultures EALC 3970(3) / 4970(3).

REL-3980(3) / 4980(3) TOPICS IN ABORIGINAL

RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS (S3)

This course explores specific topics in the Aboriginal Religious Traditions area of study at an advanced level. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies. Students enrolled at the 4000 level are typically assigned a heavier workload in terms of assignments and are expected to perform at a more advanced level. Students should consult the department regarding potential offerings in a given year.

PREREQUISITES: 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, 3 of which must be in the Aboriginal Religious Traditions area of study, or permission of the instructor. Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

REL-3990(6) / REL-4990(6) READINGS IN RELIGION (D)

This course will provide individual directed study of a specialized subject at an advanced level.

PREREQUISITES: Permission of Department Chair.

REL-3991(3) / REL-4991(3) READINGS IN RELIGION (D)

This course will provide individual directed study of a specialized subject at an advanced level.

PREREQUISITES: Permission of Department Chair.

REL-3999(6) / REL-4999(6) LANGUAGES FOR

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (T)

This course will provide an individual tutorial program in a language required by an advanced student in connection with ongoing study in a specialized religious field.

PREREQUISITES: Permission of Department Chair.

REL-5001(3) METHOD AND THEORY IN THE STUDY OF RELIGION I: SOCIAL SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES (S3)

This course examines the problem of method in Religious Studies, discussing Religion as a field of study, its definition, development, and relation to other disciplines. Students examine classic social scientific approaches to the study of religion: sociological, anthropological, psychological, as well as feminist and post-modernist methods. Along with REL-5002(3), this course fulfills the method and theory requirement for the Joint Masters Program in Religion.

PREREQUISITES: Open to Honours, Pre-masters or Masters students, or with the permission of Chair or Graduate Chair.

REL-5002(3) METHOD AND THEORY IN THE STUDY OF

RELIGION II: TEXTUAL INTERPRETATION (S3)

This course introduces the problem of method in Religious Studies, especially as it relates to the study and interpretation of religious texts. Texts are examined from the perspective of various possible hermeneutical interpretations, taking into account literary, contextual, and historical concerns, as well as doctrinal and ideological considerations. Students consider both traditional religious and post-traditional ways of interpreting texts, gaining appreciation for how historical and ideological forces shape the interpretation of religious

texts. Along with REL-5001(3), this course fulfills the method and theory requirement for the Joint Master Program in Religion.

PREREQUISITES: Open to Honours, Pre-masters or Masters students, or with the permission of Chair or Graduate Chair.

REL-5990(6) ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL STUDY IN

RELIGION (D)

This course will provide individual, directed study of a specialized topic for students beyond the undergraduate level.

REL-5991(3) ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL STUDY IN

RELIGION (D)

This course will provide individual, directed study of a specialized topic for students beyond the undergraduate level.