

Queen's University
Department of Religious Studies
RELS-161 Religion and Culture
(Winter 2012)

Instructor: Dr. Jason James Kelly
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Office: Theological Hall, Rm. 403
Office hours: Mon. 1:00-2:30 pm, or by appointment
Time: Mon. 9:30- 10:30 am
Wed. 8:30-9:30 am
Location: Kingston, Rm. 201

TAs: Emma Sturgeon (Tutorial 2, 5)
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Vito Michienzi (Tutorial 3, 6)
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Course Description: This course will examine various issues that arise in the contemporary study of religion and culture. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a general understanding of how certain religious traditions view sexuality, gender, and the environment. Students will be encouraged to think critically about these issues and reflect on the various ways religion and culture impact their lives. The methods of learning will involve a combination of reading, reflection, discussion, research, and writing.

Required Texts:

Available at the campus bookstore

1. *Sex and Religion*. Christel Manning, Phil Zuckerman (eds.). Thomas Wadsworth, 2005.
2. *Deep Ecology and World Religions*. David Barnhill and Roger Gottlieb (eds.). SUNY Press, 2001.

Evaluation:

Please note that the winter term is worth 50% of your final grade. You must be registered in both the Fall and Winter sections of the course to receive a final grade.

Evaluation is based on: (1) one 2-page, double-spaced (12 point, New Times Roman, 1" margins) critical reflection statement (CRS, worth 10%). CRS's are based on selected weekly readings and will be shared in tutorials. In addition, tutorial attendance as well as consistent and informed participation is mandatory (worth 5%); (2) take-home essay (15%), 6-pages, double-spaced (12 point, New Times Roman, 1" margins) due Monday, April 9; and two in class quizzes (10% each, on February 29 and April 2).

All grading is done by your TA. There is no final exam for the winter section of the course. There are no classes on Thursdays. ALL lectures are held on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Schedule of Readings

- Week 1, Jan 9-11: Introduction to course; Hinduism
Manning and Zuckerman: 1-40
- Week 2, Jan 16-18: Buddhism; Chinese Religion
Manning and Zuckerman: 41-92
- Week 3, Jan 23-25: Judaism; Christianity
Manning and Zuckerman: 93-141
- Week 4, Jan 30- Feb 1: Mormonism; The Children of God
Manning and Zuckerman: 142-180
- Week 5, Feb 6-8: Islam; Gender and Mysticism
Manning and Zuckerman: 181-203
Grace M. Jantzen, "Feminists, Philosophers, and Mystics."
Available online at
<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.queensu.ca/stable/3810428?seq=1>
- Week 6, Feb 13-15: Deep Ecology Movement; Spiritual Deep Ecology
Alan Drengson, "Deep Ecology Movement."
Available online at <http://www.deepecology.org/movement.htm>
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 1-17
- Week 7, Feb 20-22: Reading Week.
- Week 8, Feb 27-29: Indigenous Traditions; Quiz (Feb 29, 10%)
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 35-58
- Week 9, March 5-7: Hinduism and Buddhism
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 59-106
- Week 10, March 12-14: Daoism and Confucianism
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 107-152
- Week 11, March 19-21: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 153-228
- Week 12, March 26-28: Ecofeminism; Spiritual Ecology
Barnhill and Gottlieb: 229-269
- Week 13, April 2-4: Quiz (April 2); Nature Mysticism
Roger. S Gottlieb, "The transcendence of justice and the justice
of transcendence: Mysticism, deep ecology, and political
life." Available online at
<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.queensu.ca/stable/1466036?seq=1>

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2011-2012-calendar/academic-regulations/regulation-1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

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Grades

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below