

RELS 163: RELIGION AND POPULAR CULTURE

Queen's University School of Religion

Taught by: Professor Shobhana Xavier

This course will identify and describe characteristics of religion as they appear in popular culture (e.g. movies; music; Netflix series; social media; sports) while analyzing how such depictions present, shape, and create perceptions of religion in public discourse. In our examination we will learn and use theories of race, gender, culture, and performance studies and more to understand how religion is popularized and commodified. Course case studies will draw from indigenous traditions, the Nation of Gods and Earth (5%ers), Islam, Hinduism, popular spirituality, sports and much more.

Time Commitment per Week

Course Breakdown

Attendance 5%
 Participation 10%
 Popular Culture Analysis (15%)
 OnQ Reading Quizzes (10%)
 Mid-term test (20%)
 Film Review (20%)
 Final test (20%)

8
hours

Prerequisite

None

Required Textbook/Materials

Yes