

## **RELIGION 2307B**

Selected Topics in Religion: Hebrew Bible  
Fall, 2008

### **Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka**

St. Patrick's Building, Room 100SP

Course begins Thursday, September 4, 2008, and runs on Thursdays (1805-2055), till November 27, 2008.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** - Explores the roots of the primary values in Judaism, derived from the scriptural texts. These includes sanctity of life, ethical principles, respect for person and property, speech regulations, and attitudes.

### **Evaluation**

The final mark will fuse together class involvement (20%), term paper (40%), and final exam (40%).

Term paper proposals and outline are due by October 23, 2008. Late penalty is 2% per week.

The term paper is due by November 27, 2008. Maximum of 5 pages, typed and double-spaced. Late penalty is 1% per day.

The final exam (choice of 2 of 3 essay topics) will be in class, on the last day of the term, November 27, 2008.

### **Texts**

Any Bible

Best Kept Secrets of Judaism, by Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka (Southfield, Michigan: Targum Press, 2002). (BKS)

Judaism on Illness and Suffering, by Reuven P. Bulka (Northvale, New Jersey: Jason Aronson Inc., 1998). (JIS)

## **Weekly Topics**

September 4 - General Introduction

September 11 - Sanctity of Life (Bulka, **BKS**, 165-174).

September 18 - Basic Ethics (Bulka, **BKS**, 179-187).

September 25 - Caring for Others (Bulka, **BKS**, 121-139).

October 2 - Respect for Person and Property (Bulka, **BKS**, 146-162).

October 9 - No class

October 16 - Pleasure and Pain (Bulka, **JIS**, 3-17).

October 23 - Suicide (Bulka, **JIS**, 215-230).

October 30 - Suffering (Bulka, **JIS**, 167-201).

November 6 - Speech Regulations (Bulka, **BKS**, 188-197).

November 13 - Behaviours (Bulka, **BKS**, 198-209).

November 20 - Cultivating Attitudes (Bulka, **BKS**, 210-221).

November 27 - Final exam, in class.

## REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “to use and pass off as one’s own idea or product the work of another without expressly giving credit to another.” This can include:

- Copying from another person's work without indicating this through appropriate use of quotation marks and footnote citations.
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another person's work (i.e. extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own).
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as if it were your own work (e.g. another student's term paper, a paper purchased from a term paper "factory", materials or term papers downloaded from the Internet, etc.).
- Handing in "substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors...involved." (University Senate)

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of "F" for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

|                  |                 |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A+ = 90-100 (12) | B+ = 77-79 (9)  | C+ = 67-69 (6)  |
| A = 85-89 (11)   | B = 73-76 (8)   | C = 63-66 (5)   |
| A - = 80-84 (10) | B - = 70-72 (7) | C - = 60-62 (4) |
| D+ = 57-59 (3)   | D = 53-56 (2)   | D - = 50-52 (1) |

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| F   | Failure. No academic credit  |
| WDN | Withdrawn from the course  |
| ABS | Absent from the final examination  |
| DEF | Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")   |
| FND | "Failed, no Deferral" – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline. |

### WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Fall term courses is November 7th, 2008. Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (full year) and Winter term courses is March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

#### For Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary *Letters of Accommodation*. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible. Please note the deadline for submitting completed forms to the Paul Menton Centre is November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (for fall/winter term courses) / March 6<sup>th</sup> 2009 (for winter term courses).

#### **For Religious Obligations:**

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance. (613-520-5622)

#### **For Pregnancy:**

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

#### **PETITIONS TO DEFER**

Students unable to complete a **final** term paper or write a **final** examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply in writing within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

#### **ADDRESSES**

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| College of the Humanities 520-2809       | 300 Paterson                  |
| Classics and Religion Office 520-2100    | 2A39 Paterson                 |
| Registrar's Office 520-3500              | 300 Tory                      |
| Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850 | 302 Tory                      |
| Paul Menton Centre 520-6608              | 500 Unicentre                 |
| Writing Tutorial Service 520-6632        | 4 <sup>th</sup> floor Library |