

THE COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMANITIES PROGRAM
HUMS 1000A MYTH AND SYMBOL
2012-13

Prof. Kim Stratton
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Office hours: Tues and Thurs. 4-5pm

Prof. Noel Salmond
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Office hours: 10:30 – 12:00 Weds.

Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday 2:35-3:55 PA 303

Discussion Groups:

Group 1: Friday 2:35-3:55 (PA 302)

Group 2: Wednesday 2:35-3:55 (PA 302)

Group 3: Wednesday 4:05-5:25 (PA 302)

Group 4: Wednesday 1:05-2:25 (PA 302)

This course engages primary sources -- primarily religious and primarily from the axial age civilizations of the ancient world. In examining these texts we probe the function of the mythic and symbolic in human thought, imagination, and ritual practice. Themes include mortality, cosmogony, theogony, theophany, theodicy, sacrifice, sacred and profane love.

We examine dynamics in religious traditions such as polytheistic versus monotheistic perspectives and changes (as with the Hebrew Prophets) in the evaluation of sacrifice and ritual. We consider the continuities and ruptures between the Hebrew Bible and its Near Eastern environment. We probe, in India, the tension between religion geared towards reinforcement of social life and duty and religion aimed at total transcendence or liberation. In China we examine differing Confucian and Daoist conceptions of the Way.

Contrasts and comparisons across cultures will be made on these themes and tensions. At all times, however, the aim will be to think through what is distinct and perhaps ultimately irreconcilable among these differing visions of human experience, rather than an imposed synthesis of superficial resemblances. Guided by a close reading of primary texts (with reference to a few select secondary sources and resources), the main aim of the course is to inspire reflection on complex and divergent sources of human spirituality, virtue, and wisdom.

Required Texts:

(available at the University Bookstore)

New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha. College Edition. 4th Edition.

New Revised Standard Version. Oxford: OUP, 2010. (Hardback)

Dalley, Stephanie. *Myths from Mesopotamia*. Oxford: OUP, 2000.

Olivelle, Patrick. *Upanisads*. Oxford: OUP, 1998

Miller, Barbara Stoler. *The Bhagavad Gita*. New York: Bantam, 1988.

Miller, Barbara Stoler. *Love Song of the Dark Lord: Jayadeva's Gitagovinda*. 20th Anniversary Edition. New York: Columbia University Press, 1998.

Lao Tzu: Tao Te Ching, trans. D.C. Lau, London: Penguin, 1963.

Confucius: The Analects, trans. D.C. Lau, London: Penguin, 1979

Strunk and White. *The Elements of Style*. Longman, 4th edition, 1999.

Humanities 1000 Course Pack (2012-2013)

Strongly Recommended:

Israel Finkelstein and Neil Asher Silberman. *The Bible Unearthed: Archaeology's New Vision of Ancient Israel and the Origin of its Sacred Texts*. Simon and Schuster, 2002.

William Dever. *Who Were the Israelites and Where did they Come From?* Eerdmans, 2006.

Grades for the course will be based on

1) Participation in the discussion groups includes attendance, bringing to every class two questions about the readings, and leading two discussions (one each term), for a total of 15%

2) Five written assignments, worth a total of 55%, distributed as follows:

First Semester:

- (1) 1 page in length (5%)
- (2) 2-3 pages in length (10%)
- (3) 5-6 pages in length (10%)

Second Semester:

- (4) 6-7 pages in length (15%)
- (5) 8-10 pages in length (15%)

3) A three-hour Christmas examination during the formal examination period, December 6-19, worth 15%

4) A three-hour final examination during the formal examination period, April 13-27, worth 15%.

THE FINE PRINT

To pass, students must regularly attend the lectures, complete the written assignments, and sit both the examinations, all unless formally excused by the Instructors because of illness or some other legitimate reason.

Attendance: Students are responsible for all material covered, announcements made, course documents distributed, and assignments returned, whether they are present in class or not.

Late Assignments: Assignments are to be submitted in class on the day they are due. Assignments that come into the Instructors' hands after the end of class will be docked one grade-point (e.g., from a B+ to a B) or 3-1/3 percentage points the first day or part thereof and each day subsequently. Late penalties on papers accompanied by a medical certificate or other proof of a legitimate reason for lateness will be adjusted accordingly. But once the papers submitted on time are graded and returned, *no further papers will be accepted except for very compelling reasons*. No work can be accepted for any reason after the Senate's deadline published in the current *Calendar*.

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"* (*Calendar*). This can include

- Copying from another's work without indicating this through *both* the appropriate use of quotation marks *and* citations in footnotes;
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another's work (i.e., extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own); and
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as your own work (e.g., another student's term paper, a paper purchased from a commercial term-paper factory, or materials or term papers downloaded from the Internet).

Plagiarism is a serious offence, and it cannot be dealt with by the Instructors alone. In all cases where plagiarism is suspected, Instructors are now *required* to notify their Chair or Director, who in turn is *required* to report the matter to the Associate Deans of the Faculty. The Associate Deans then conduct a formal investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties can range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work, a final grade of F for the course, suspension from all studies, to expulsion from the University.

The Senate also considers an instructional offence the submission of *"substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors . . . involved"* (*Calendar*).

Passages copied word-for-word without quotation marks, whether the source is cited or not, constitute plagiarism. Plagiarism from internet sources is ridiculously easy to detect.

HUMS 1000 Myth and Symbol

Thur. Sept. 6	Introduction to the course (Profs. Salmond and Stratton)
Tue. Sept. 11	What is Myth? Articles by William Paden and Bruce Lincoln in <i>Course Pack</i> . (Profs. Salmond and Stratton)
Thur. Sept. 13	Cosmogony and Cosmology (Prof. Salmond)
Tue. Sept. 18	Anishinaabe mythology (Prof. Salmond) FIRST PAPER DUE
Thur. Sept. 20	Anishinaabe mythology (Prof. Salmond)
Tue. Sept. 25	Intro to Ancient Mesopotamia and Enuma Elish (Prof. Stratton)
Thur. Sept. 27	Gilgamesh (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Oct. 2 *Elements of Style* (Prof. Stratton)

Thur. Oct. 4 Homeric Hymn to Demeter and Descent of Ishtar (Prof. Stratton)

[Fri. Oct. 5 University Day – no classes]
[Mon. Oct. 8 Thanksgiving]

Tue. Oct. 9 Introduction to Ancient India, Rig Veda (Prof. Salmond)
SECOND PAPER DUE

Thur. Oct. 11 Rig Veda (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Oct. 16 Upanisads (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Oct. 18 Upanisads (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Oct. 23 Intro to the Bible, Genesis 1:1; *Ancient Israelites*, Ch. 12 (Prof. Stratton)

Thur. Oct. 25 Genesis 1:2-11; *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 1 (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Oct. 30 Genesis 12-27 (Prof. Stratton)

Thur. Nov. 1 Genesis 28-50 (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Nov. 6 Intro to Indian Epic. Mahabharata (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Nov. 8 Bhagavad Gita (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Nov. 13 Bhagavad Gita (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Nov. 15 Bhagavad Gita (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Nov. 20 SASC visit and Video

Thur. Nov. 22 Exodus 1-19; *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 2 (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Nov. 27 Exodus 20-40 (Prof. Stratton)
THIRD PAPER DUE

Thur. Nov. 29 Exam Review (Profs. Salmond and Stratton)

[Dec. 6 - 19 Examination Period] (*Do not make travel plans within these dates*)

**HUMS 1000 Seminars
Fall Semester, 2011**

1. Sept. 12 – 14 Introductions and Myth
2. Sept. 19 - 21 Anishinaabe Myth
3. Sept. 26 - 28 Enuma Elish
4. Oct. 3 - 5 Paper Workshop—you must bring complete draft of 2nd paper
5. Oct. 10 - 12 Rig Veda
6. Oct. 17 - 19 Upanisads
7. Oct. 24 -26 Genesis
8. Oct. 31 -Nov. 2 Genesis
9. Nov. 7 - 9 Bhagavad Gita
10. Nov. 14 - 16 Bhagavad Gita
11. Nov. 21 - 23 Paper Workshop—you must bring a complete draft of 3rd paper
12. Nov. 28 – 30 Exodus

**HUMS 1000
Winter, 2012**

- Tue. Jan. 8 Joshua, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 3 (Prof. Stratton)
- Thur. Jan. 10 Judges, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 4 (Prof. Stratton)
- Tue. Jan. 15 I Samuel, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 5 (Prof. Stratton)
- Thur. Jan. 17 II Samuel, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 6 (Prof. Stratton)
- Tue. Jan. 22 Krishna Bhakti: The Gita Govinda (Prof. Salmond)
- Thur. Jan. 24 Gita Govinda and Hindu Pantheon (Prof. Salmond)
- Tue. Jan. 29 Siva (Prof. Salmond)
- Thur. Jan. 31 Devi (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Feb. 5 1 Kings, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 7 (Prof. Stratton)

Thur. Feb. 7 II Kings, *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 8 (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Feb. 12 Deuteronomy; *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 11; *The Early History of God*, Chs. 1, 2, & 3

Thur. Feb. 14 Jeremiah 1-44; *Bible Unearthed*, Ch. 12 (Prof. Stratton)

Tue. Feb. 19 BREAK WEEK

Thur. Feb. 21 BREAK WEEK

Tue. Feb. 26 Ezekiel 1-11, Isaiah 40-66 (Prof. Stratton)
FOURTH PAPER DUE

Thur. Feb. 28 Proverbs and Ecclesiastes

Tue. Mar. 5 Intro to Ancient China (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Mar. 7 Confucius Analects (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Mar. 12 Confucius Analects (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Mar. 14 Confucius Analects (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Mar. 19 Tao Te Ching (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Mar. 21 Tao Te Ching (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Mar. 26 Book of Job (Prof. Stratton)

Thur. Mar. 28 Song of Songs (Prof. Stratton)

[March 29 holiday]

Tue. Apr. 2 The Buddhacarita (Prof. Salmond)

Thur. Apr. 4 The Buddhacarita (Prof. Salmond)

Tue. Apr. 9 Exam Review (Profs. Salmond and Stratton)
FIFTH PAPER DUE

[April 13 - 27 Examination Period] (*do not make travel plans within these dates*)

**HUMS 1000 Seminars
Winter, 2012**

1. Jan. 9 – 11 Joshua
2. Jan. 16 - 18 I Samuel
3. Jan. 23 - 25 Gita Govinda
4. Jan. 30 - Feb. 1 Siva and Devi
5. Feb. 6 - Feb. 8 I Kings
6. Feb. 13 - 15 Deuteronomy
- [Feb. 20 - 22 BREAK]
7. Feb. 27 – Mar. 1 Prophets
8. Mar. 6 - 8 Analects
9. Mar. 13 - 15 Tao Te Ching
10. Mar. 20 - 22 Tao Te Ching
11. Mar. 27 - 29 Book of Job
12. Apr. 3 - 5 Buddhacarita

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 “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

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 can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

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

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

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 3, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 10, 2013**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
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/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library