

Carleton University

2022-2023

**The College of the Humanities: Religion
Global Religions: Identity and Community (RELI 1741)
Winter Term**

Instructor: Dr. Alyshea Cummins

Office Hours: after class or by appointment

Office Location: PA 310A | Zoom

Email: alyshea.cummins@carleton.ca

Teaching Assistant:

Office Hours:

Email:

Online/Blended: Asynchronous Online Learning with In-Person Class Discussions

Course Content: Available on Mondays (except for holidays)

In-Person Class Discussions: Wednesdays from 10:05-11:25am EST

Location: Residence Commons, 214

Course Requires Reliable and High-Speed Internet Connection

Description: An estimated 80% of the world's 7 billion people identify with a religious tradition, indicating that knowledge of the world's religions or 'religious literacy' is vital to understanding global issues. This single semester course affords a brief introduction to some of the religions of the world (and their histories) but with a focus on the contemporary: how religious affiliation is playing out today. This course is designed for students wishing to gain introductory knowledge about religious traditions and commitments, and their influence on current politics, culture, and international relations. Special attention is given to the study of Muslims in contemporary societies.

Rationale: This course is an introduction to major issues in the study of religion in global contexts, drawing on historical and contemporary examples.

Learning Outcomes: Although students will gain a basic understanding of some of the history, beliefs, practices, and social contexts of the religions studied in this course, this course primarily focuses on the contemporary construction of religious identities and their role in politics, culture, and international relations. Using religious literacy as a framework, students will develop the ability to observe religion as existing in cultural matrixes and how this then affects political, cultural, and social expressions of religion across space and time. This framework also enables the student to recognize personal situated-ness and personal bias in confronting religious phenomena. Finally, through weekly discussion, students will develop skills to express their ideas confidently at a university level and support those ideas with evidence from the lectures, readings, and case studies.

Welcoming Classroom Commitment: We each come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, and we will inevitably approach discussions and the subject matter in unique ways. Throughout the course we will collectively try to make sure that everyone feels safe and respected when presenting their ideas and understandings about course content. We will be respectful towards one another and do our best to reflect on our own biases and assumptions in order to make space for diverse views and ways of thinking.

Class Time: Each class we will meet to discuss the respective module, lecture and readings. Through discussions and in-class assignments and activities, students will engage further with class material and gain confidence in expressing their ideas. Participation in class counts towards the participation grade (20%).

Instruments of Evaluation: The Evaluation Procedures of the university are described in the Undergraduate Calendar. Final grades are subject to the Dean's approval and are not official until that approval has been received. There are four instruments of evaluation plus potential bonus marks. As stated in the Academic Regulations of the University, Section 2.1: “To obtain credit in a course, students must meet all the course requirements for attendance, term work and examinations as published in the course outline.”

Instruments of Evaluation Summary:

Quizzes	25%	Each Module
Assignment	20%	Mar 13
Participation	20%	Wednesdays in class
Final Exam	35%	During the exam period
*BONUS MARKS	2%	*Due Friday March 31

Weekly Quizzes (25%):

- Weekly quizzes gauge your attentiveness and help prepare you for tests
- There will be a total of 11 Quizzes and the best 10 will count towards the final grade
- Found in each Module and completed on Brightspace
- Available until 23:59 EST each following Monday (see Schedule on page 6 of Syllabus)

NOTE: There are no makeups for quizzes, however extra credit opportunities will be made available and will be announced on Brightspace (see *bonus marks*).

Quizzes are available until 23:59 each following Monday (see Class Schedule on page 6 of Syllabus; Please note that there is an exception for Module #6)

Assignments (20%)

- The assignment for this course is an Infographic (due Monday March 13 at 11:59pm)
- The Instructions and the Rubric for this assignment can be found on Brightspace

NOTE: Late Assignments are subject to a -.5-point penalty each day they are late and will not be accepted for grading 5 days after the deadline.

Participation (20%)

- Every Wednesday the class meets in-person for class discussions and activities
- Students are expected to complete the module prior to each meeting
- Students will earn marks for their participation in discussions and activities
- There will be a total of 11 classes and participation is counted for 10
- See the Class Schedule on Page 6 for more details

NOTE: There are no makeups for missed classes, however extra credit opportunities will be made available and will be announced on Brightspace (see *bonus marks*).

Final Exam (35%)

- The final exam is cumulative and will be held in-person during the examination period
- Quizzes, Discussions, and Assignments will help to prepare students for the final exam
- The exam is closed book. More details will be given closer to the date
- **Please note** that in the event that the final examination has to be administered online due to public health regulations, it will be proctored using a remote proctoring service provided by Scheduling and Examination Services. You can find more information at <https://carleton.ca/ses/e-proctoring/>.

Bonus Marks (+2%):

Extra Credit Assignment (ECA): The ECA allows students to earn up to 2% on top of their final grade and/or make up for missed quizzes. To participate, students must attend a public university lecture (online or in-person) on the topic of religion and write a short critical reflection on the content (see Instructions and Rubric on Brightspace). Students must submit their ECA 1-week after the posted event. Eligible events will be posted on the “Extra-Credit Opportunities” discussion forum on Brightspace.

NOTE: Please email the professor if you are doing an ECA to replace a missed quiz grade or missed class. Late Assignments are subject to a -.5-point penalty each day they are late and will not be accepted for grading 5 days after the deadline. The final day to submit an ECA is **Friday March 31, 2023**

Required Readings

Textbook

Paul S. Rowe. 2012. *Religion and Global Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Note: The Textbook is available for purchase at the University Bookstore

Additional Readings

Additional readings will be posted on Brightspace and may include PDFs, links to online or library sources, and Multi-Media Readings. See the respective module for full list of required readings.

FAQs

1. ***Do I have to attend class?*** Yes. Students are expected to attend class every Wednesday at 10:05am. Participation in class counts towards your participation grade (20%). Lecture videos, notes, and Multi-Media Readings will be posted weekly on Brightspace to be completed asynchronously.
2. ***Do I need the textbook?*** Yes. The textbook can also be ordered online through the University Bookstore (they price match).
3. ***Are there any other activities to complete weekly?*** Yes. Each module requires you to complete a quiz. See Brightspace for a complete list of all required readings, videos, and activities.
4. ***Are there any assignments to complete?*** Yes. There is one Assignment worth 20% of your final grade. Late Assignments will be subject to a late penalty of -.5 points each day it is late. Late Assignments will not be accepted after 5 days.
5. ***Is there a Final Exam?*** Yes. The final exam will be held in-person during the exam period. In the event that the university has to close due to public health regulations, it will be administered online and will be e-proctored. It is closed book. More details will be given closer to date.
6. ***Can I earn bonus marks in this class?*** Yes, students can complete one Extra-Credit Assignment (ECA) to earn up to 2% on top of their final grade. Students can also complete additional ECA if they miss a quiz or class (see Bonus Marks).
7. ***What if I miss a Quiz or a class?*** If a student misses a quiz or a class, they can complete an ECA to replace the missed quiz or class.
8. ***What is the best way to reach you?*** By email, Office hours, or the “Ask the Instructor Q&A” online forum on Brightspace.

SCHEDULE of CLASSES, READINGS and ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK 1

Available: January 9

Module 1

Religious Literacy

Review of the Course Syllabus and Instruments of Evaluation

Syllabus Quiz: Must be completed to access course modules

READ: Ali S. Asani. "[Enhancing Religious Literacy in a Liberal Arts Education through the Study of Islam and Muslim Societies](#)," (pp. 1-31) in Shephard, Jennifer M., Kosslyn, Stephen Michael, and Hammonds, Evelyn Maxine. (eds). *The Harvard Sampler: Liberal Education for the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2011.

COMPLETE: Module 1 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 01/11 at 10:05am (Course Logistics)

QUIZ #1 – Due at **23:59, Monday 01/16**

WEEK 2

Available: January 16

Module 2

Religion in Context

READ: CH 1: Introduction and General Theoretical Overview

COMPLETE: Module 2 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 01/18 at 10:05am (Module 1)

QUIZ #2 – Due at **23:59, Monday 01/23**

WEEK 3

Available: January 23

Module 3

Roman Catholicism

READ: CH 2: The Vatican, Roman Catholicism, and Liberation
COMPLETE: Module 3 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 01/25 at 10:05am (Module 2)

QUIZ #3 – Due at **23:59, Monday 01/30**

WEEK 4

Available: January 30

Module 4

Protestant Christianity

READ: CH 3: Christianity and U.S. Foreign Policy
COMPLETE: Module 4 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 02/01 at 10:05am (Module 3)

QUIZ #4 – Due at **23:59, Monday 02/06**

WEEK 5

Available: February 6

Module 5

Judaism

READ: CH 4: Judaism, Zionism, and Israeli Foreign Policy
COMPLETE: Module 5 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 02/09 at 10:05am (Module 4)

QUIZ #5 – Due **23:59, Monday 02/13**

WEEK 6

Available: February 13

Module 6

Islam

READ: CH 5: Political Islam and the State

COMPLETE: Module 6 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 02/15 at 10:05am (Module 5)

QUIZ #6 – Due 23:59, Friday 02/17

WEEK 7

READING WEEK: February 20-24

WEEK 8

Available: February 27

Module 7

Hinduism

READ: CH 6: Religion and Politics in India

COMPLETE: Module 7 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 03/01 at 10:05am (Module 6)

QUIZ #7 – Due 23:59, Monday 03/06

WEEK 9

Available: March 6

Module 8

Buddhism

READ: CH 7: Buddhism and Politics

COMPLETE: Module 8 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 03/08 at 10:05am (Module 7)

QUIZ #8 – Due **23:59, Monday 03/13**

WEEK 10

Available: March 13

Module 9

Religion and Human Rights

READ: CH 8: Religion, Democracy, and Human Rights

COMPLETE: Module 9 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 03/15 at 10:05am (Module 8)

QUIZ #9 – Due **23:59, Monday 03/20**

ASSIGNMENT – Due at **23:59, Monday March 13**

WEEK 11

Available: March 20

Module 10

Religion and Conflict

READ: CH 9: Religion and War

COMPLETE: Module 10 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 03/22 at 10:05am (Module 9)

QUIZ #10 – Due **23:59, Monday 03/27**

WEEK 12

Available: March 27

Module 11

Religion and Peace

READ: CH 10: Religion and Conflict Resolution

COMPLETE: Module 11 on Brightspace

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 03/30 at 10:05am (Module 10)

QUIZ #11 – Due **23:59, Monday 04/03**

EXTRA-CREDIT ASSIGNMENT – Due at **23:59, FRIDAY March 31st**

WEEK 13

April 5

Final Class Meeting

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 04/05 at 10:05am (Module 11)

WEEK 14

April 12

Exam Review: Online via Zoom

CLASS MEETING: Wednesday 04/12 at 10:05am (Exam Review)

See Brightspace for Zoom Meeting Link

EXAMINATION PERIOD

April 15-27



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Academic Dates and Deadlines

[This schedule](#) contains the dates prescribed by the University Senate for academic activities. Dates relating to fee payment, cancellation of course selections, late charges, and other fees or charges will be published in the [Important Dates and Deadlines section](#) of the Registration Website.

Online Learning Resources

While online courses offer flexibility and convenience, they also present unique challenges that traditional face-to-face courses do not. [On this page](#), you will find resources collected by Carleton Online to help you succeed in your online courses; Learning Strategies and Best Practices, Study Skills, Technology and Online Interaction and Engagement.

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.

Academic Integrity Policy (updated June 2021)

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one's own.

Plagiarism includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms,

formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;

- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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.

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

[Academic Integrity Process](#)

Academic Accommodation Policy

Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals.

Academic accommodation refers to educational practices, systems and support mechanisms designed to accommodate diversity and difference. The purpose of accommodation is to enable students to perform the essential requirements of their academic programs. At no time does academic accommodation undermine or compromise the learning objectives that are established by the academic authorities of the University.

Addressing Human Rights Concerns

The University and all members of the University community share responsibility for ensuring that the University's educational, work and living environments are free from discrimination and harassment. Should you have concerns about harassment or discrimination relating to your age, ancestry, citizenship, colour, creed (religion), disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender expression, gender identity, marital status, place of origin, race, sex (including pregnancy), or sexual orientation, please contact the [Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities](#).

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your [academic obligations](#) during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Religious Accommodation

Please contact your instructor 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. For more details, please review the [Student Guide to Academic Accommodation](#).

Pregnancy Accommodation

Please contact your instructor 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. . For more details, please review the [Student Guide to Academic Accommodation](#).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit the [Equity and Inclusive Communities website](#).

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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. For more details, see the [Senate Policy on Accommodation for Student Activities](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion can be found [here](#). Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value. Where the course credit is greater or less than one credit, the grade points are adjusted proportionately.

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or

distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).
[More information](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

Carleton University strives to provide a safe environment conducive to personal and intellectual growth, free of injustice and characterized by understanding respect, peace, trust, and fairness.

The [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) governs the non-academic behaviour of students. Carleton University is committed to building a campus that promotes personal growth through the establishment and promotion of transparent and fair academic and non-academic responsibilities.

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work.

1. Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the **instructor** concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor and in all cases this must occur **no later than three (3) working days after the term work was due**. The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.
2. In cases where a student is not able to complete term work due to illness or injury for a significant period of time/or long term, the instructor and/or student may elect to consult with the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses) or Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) to determine appropriate action.
3. If a student is concerned the instructor did not respond to the request for academic accommodation or did not provide reasonable accommodation, the student should consult with the department/school/institute chair/director. If a mutually agreeable accommodation to complete course requirements prior to the course grade submission deadline cannot be achieved, the Associate Dean will become involved. If academic accommodation is not granted, and the student receives word **after** the academic withdrawal deadline, the student may submit a petition to the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses)/Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) for a final grade of WDN (Withdrawn) in the course(s). If academic

accommodation is not granted, and the student receives word **prior** to the academic withdrawal deadline, the student may elect to withdraw from the course(s).

4. Furthermore, if academic accommodation is granted, but the student is unable to complete the accommodation according to the terms set out by the instructor as a result of further illness, injury or extraordinary circumstances beyond their control, the student may submit a petition to the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses)/Graduate Registrar (graduate courses). Please note, however, that the course instructor will be required to submit an earned final grade and further consideration will only be reviewed according to established precedents and deadlines. [More information of deferred Term Work](#)

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of a serious illness/emergency or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made.

The application for a deferral must:

1. be made in writing to the Registrar's Office **no later than three working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination**; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation and, in cases of illness, by a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination, or by appropriate documents in other cases. Medical documents must specify the date of the onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [here](#).

[More information on Final Exam Deferrals Registrar's Office "Defer an Exam" page](#)

Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal

Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend, you must withdraw in [Carleton Central](#) within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load. A course dropped after the deadline for financial withdrawal will receive a grade of Withdrawn (WDN), which appears on your official transcript.

Even if you miss the deadline for financial withdrawal, you might decide to drop a course to avoid a failure or a poor grade showing up on your student record and bringing down your CGPA. It is your responsibility to drop the course via Carleton Central within the published [deadlines](#) (see Academic Withdrawal).

If you are considering withdrawing from a course, you may want to talk to an advisor first. Course withdrawal may affect your student status, as well as your eligibility for student funding, immigration status, residence accommodation and participation in varsity sports, etc. Additionally, remember that once you choose your courses, you must use the “Calculate amount to pay” button to determine the correct amount of fees to pay.

Carleton Central is your one-stop shop for registration activities. If you are interested in taking a course, make sure to complete your registration. Simply attending a course does not mean you are registered in it, nor is it grounds for petition or appeal.

Department Contact Information

Bachelor of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall
Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Graduate) 2A39 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

MEMS (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca