

Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

RELI 1710 A (Fall 2023)

Monday + Wednesday 10:00-11:30am

Room: Loeb C264

Religion

College of the Humanities

Professor Z.A. Crook

2a43 Paterson Hall

zeba.crook@carleton.ca

Office Hours (no appointment needed):

Mondays and Wednesdays 1-2pm

(masks must be worn for in-person office meetings)

Other ways to get answers: send an email; or ask for a Zoom session

Course Objective

This course presumes no previous knowledge about Judaism, Christianity, or Islam. However, many students arrive with things they know, and things they think they know, about these three religions. Learning about a religion from an academic as opposed to a confessional approach can require some students to learn some new things, other students sometimes to learn old things differently, and others to relearn things. It can take, for some students, a thick skin. This material is taught in a critical, historical, but most importantly also a non-judgemental manner. We will focus on the historical development of these religions, their complex array of competing beliefs, and the many practices of the smaller groups that make up each religion. You should never feel pressured to change your religious perspective, nor should you pressure each other to do so.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should:

- know the basic facts about the religions covered in the course, namely their histories and the vocabulary pertaining to their beliefs and practices
- understand some foundational elements of the academic study of religion
- be able to think critically about religion as a human, historical, and cultural phenomenon
- be able to explain the great diversity that exists within each religion

Religion Program Learning Objectives

This course contributes towards the Program Learning Objectives. By the end of a degree in Religion, students should:

- be able to employ the methods of the academic study of religion, which stresses outsider discourse, methodological atheism, and the ability to differentiate between advocacy and the critical study of religion
- be able to describe the history of and relationship among the major religions of the world in their local and global contexts
- be able to examine characteristic features and experiences of religious people in a global environment
- be able to describe the integral role of religion as a category helping to shape cultures, identities, political systems, and public life
- be able to demonstrate religious literacy, which includes facility in terminology native to religions as well as to the discipline

Course Evaluation

General Theory Quiz (10%; in Brightspace, Sept. 27)

Field Work Assignment – 30% (4 pages max; submit in Brightspace by 11:59pm October 20)

Midterm (25%, Nov 13; in class)

Final Cumulative In-Person Exam (35%)

Required Textbook

Zeba A. Crook, *Religions of a Single God* (Sheffield, UK: Equinox, 2019)

Ordered through the Carleton Bookstore. Also available from the publisher:

<https://www.equinoxpub.com/home/religions-single-god/>

Email Communication

- This is an entirely on-line course. Email is my only means to contact you, and Carleton's Connect e-mail is the official mode of email communication for all matters having to do with the university and with this course. Therefore, you must check your Carleton email daily (at least). All communications sent to your Carleton address are official, and you are expected to get them. It is not an option to claim you did not get some announcement or request because you have another email address or took a break from email. You can configure your Connect account to forward university emails to another address, but you must be reachable through your Connect account. Also, any communication between you

and me involving your personal information (like grades) must originate from a Connect account (FIPPA).

Lecture Schedule and Assigned Reading

Sept 6	Course Introduction
Sept 11	How To Study Religion: Part I (Ch. 1)
History (Events That Happened)	
Sept 13, <u>18</u>, <u>20</u>, <u>25</u>, 27, Oct 2, 4, (no class Oct 9), 11	Judaism (Part 1 Intro + Ch. 2) Christianity (Ch. 3) Islam (Ch. 4)
Orthodoxy (Things They Believe)	
Oct 16 + 18	Judaism (Part 2 Intro + Ch. 5)
Oct 23 + 25	(Fall Break)
Oct 30 + Nov 1	Christianity (Ch. 6)
Nov 6 + 8	Islam (Ch. 7)
Nov 13	Midterm Exam (In class)
Orthopraxy (Stuff They Do)	
Nov 15 + 20	Judaism (Part 3 Intro + Ch. 8)
Nov 22 + 27	Christianity (Ch. 9)
Nov 29 + Dec 4	Islam (Ch. 10)
What's Next?	
Dec 6 + (Fri) 8	Latter-Day Saints and Baha'i (Part 4 Intro + Ch. 11)

Assessments

General Theory Quiz (10%)

- On-line quiz; in Brightspace
- Will be available all day (6am-11pm Sept 27)
- Once you open the quiz, you have 30mins to answer 20 questions. Do not open the quiz until you are ready to write it.
- Based on material from the Sept 11 lecture and Chapter 1

- **Open book:** have your notes from the lecture and your textbook ready

Field Work Assignment – 30% (4 pages; submit in Brightspace by 11:59pm, Friday Oct 20)

- See **Field Work Assignment Instructions** in Brightspace for extensive and detailed instructions. Failure to follow the instructions exactly will make achieving a high grade unlikely.
- Electronic Submission in Brightspace; MS Word submissions only (no PDFs, Pages, etc).
- Papers that are longer than 4 pages will be marked, but nothing beyond the 4th page will be read. Therefore, information past the 4th page will not contribute to your grade.
 - A title page is not required for Brightspace submission, but if you include one, it **does not count** as one of the 4 pages.
- **Late Penalty Policy:** 2% per day, including weekends

Midterm (25%, Nov 13, in class)

- Midterm happens in our classroom during class time.
- Quiz starts at 10:05am, and ends at 11:25am
- 80mins long, 60 questions
- Based on material covered and readings assigned Sept 11—Nov 8
- **Not open book;** no aids or other material can be used
- COVID-19 is still in our community. Keep in mind that while make-up exams are available if you get sick: a) make up exams never seem to result in as high a grade as the original exam, likely because of the time lost; and b) lectures cannot be re-delivered if you get sick. Staying healthy will improve your performance in this course.
- **If you miss the midterm:**
 - medical documentation must be provided to me by Nov 15 so that I know how large a room I need to book.

Final Exam (35%)

- 100 questions in 120 mins
- Covers the whole term, including the theory lecture
- In-person, formally scheduled by Exam Services

Academic Integrity and Being an Ethical Student

- I take academic integrity extremely seriously. Assignments are carefully scrutinized. You must write your paper independently and in your own words.
 - Avoid sharing your paper with a classmate
 - It can lead to trouble
 - Avoid websites that present themselves as “plagiarism checkers”
 - They do not operate with Carleton’s definition of plagiarism and therefore will not give you an accurate assessment (please see the last page of this document). If you have written the assignment entirely on your own, you do not need to use such a tool. And conversely, “A plagiarism checker told

me my assignment was fine” is not a defense when faced with questions about academic integrity.

- Avoid on-line “rewording,” paraphrasing, or word-spinning tools
 - These tools also present themselves as legitimate ways of avoiding plagiarism, but it is not true. They exist not to help students, but to make money, and students are often fooled.
- Avoid ChatGPT
 - It produces writing that is very easy to spot. Therefore, it will not help you achieve the grade you’re hoping for by using it.
- It is an academic offense to use any of these practices / tools (or similar) in the writing of your paper. Please take me at my word: I have been doing this a long time, and I know what undergraduate and human-produced writing looks like.

CARLETON UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Plagiarism

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This 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 words of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, 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, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- 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.

Student Mental Health

As a university student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you; they can be found here: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>.

Academic Accommodations

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. Information on what can be accommodated and how to ask can be found here: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>.

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Tuesday, July
4, 2023

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.

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.

Online Learning Resources

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.

Academic Integrity Policy

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.

Co-operation or Collaboration

An important and valuable component of the learning process is the progress a student can make as a result of interacting with other students. In struggling together to master similar concepts and problems and in being exposed to each other's views and approaches, a group of students can enhance and speed up the learning process. Carleton University encourages students to benefit from these activities which will not generally be viewed as a violation of the Policy. With the exception of tests and examinations, instructors will not normally limit these interactions.

Students shall not co-operate or collaborate on academic work when the instructor has indicated that the work is to be completed on an individual basis. Failure to follow the instructor's directions in this regard is a violation of the standards of academic integrity. Unless otherwise indicated, students shall not co-operate or collaborate in the completion of a test or examination.

Group Work: There are many cases where students are expected or required to work in groups to complete a course requirement. Normally, students are not responsible for violations of this policy committed by other members of a group in which they participate.

The full Academic Integrity Policy can be found [here](#). More information on the process [here](#).

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:

Pregnancy obligation: 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. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

Religious obligation: 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. For more details [click here](#).

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).

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:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

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 will be provided to students who

compete or perform at the national or international level. 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/SCCASP-Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-Cleancopy-final-Sept-2022-2.pdf>

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 short-term incapacitation (illness, injury, emergency, or other circumstances beyond their control) which forces them to delay submission of the work.

1. Students who claim incapacitation as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor. If the instructor requires supporting documentation, the instructor may only request submission of the University's self-declaration form, which is available on the [Registrar's Office website](#). 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](#).

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of incapacitation (illness, injury, emergency, or extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's 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 (3) working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation. In cases of short-term incapacitation normally lasting no more than 10 days, students must include the University's self-declaration form, which can be found on [the Registrar's Office website](#). Additional documentation is required in cases of incapacitation lasting longer than 10 days and must be supported by a medical note specifying the date of 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](#).

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.

Mental Health and Wellness at Carleton

Discover the tools and resources Carleton offers to help understand, manage and improve your mental health and wellness while at university.

[Counselling](#)

[Residence Counselling](#)

[Supporting Your Mental Health](#)

Get Help Now

<https://wellness.carleton.ca/get-help-now/>

If in crisis call:

Counselling Services: 613-520-6674 (press 2) *Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

After Hours

If you need assistance with an urgent situation outside of our regular operating hours, contact:

- [Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region](#): Available 24/7-365 days/year and is bilingual (English/French).
 - **Distress**: 613-238-3311 ◦ **Crisis**: 613-722-6914 ◦ **Text**: 343-306-5550 (available 10:00 am – 11:00 pm, 7 days/week, 365 days/year) ◦ Web Chat: blue chat icon at the bottom right corner of the website. ◦ Text Service is available in English only to residents of Ottawa & the Ottawa Region.)
- [Good2Talk](#): Available 24/7-365 days/year and is available in English, French and Mandarin
 - Call: **1-866-925-5454** ◦ Text GOOD2TALKON to 686868 ◦ [Facebook Messenger](#)
- [Empower Me](#): A 24/7 resource service for undergraduate students. 1-833-628-5589 (toll-free)
- International SOS's Emotional Support: Offers 24/7 access to mental health professionals in more than 60 languages through their dedicated line +1 215-942-8478. Students can call this number collect (the person being telephoned receives the charges) to access services.

The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement

The Centre for Indigenous Initiatives is proud to offer culturally centered individual counselling to students who self-identify as First Nation, Metis or Inuk. Through this service, Indigenous students can access confidential, individual sessions for support with personal, mental health or academic challenges.

[More information and to book an appointment.](#)

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