

**COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES  
RELIGION PROGRAM: RELI 1710A**

**INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, AND ISLAM**

**Instructor:** Shawna Dolansky

**E-mail:** Shawna.Dolansky@carleton.ca

**Office hours:** Tu/Th 1:15-2:15pm (or by appointment), Paterson 2a60

**Office Phone:** 520-2600 ext. 7029

**Lectures:** Mon/Wed 2:35-3:55pm, Loeb 264

This course provides a basic overview of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, neither presuming nor requiring any prior knowledge of these religions. It also serves as an introduction to the academic study of religion – a way of looking at histories, beliefs, and practices of religious traditions that differs from faith-based confessional approaches in its arms-length, non-judgmental “historical-critical analysis.” This is about learning how various groups have lived their lives religiously, both historically and in the present, and about how religious beliefs and practices are influenced by, and themselves influence, culture, society, politics, and history. This course requires from you: curiosity, open-mindedness, respect, attendance (physically and mentally) in class, and the completion of weekly readings, one writing assignment, a midterm, and a final exam. An academic approach to the study of religion should never make you feel pressured to change your religious perspective, nor should it encourage you to pressure others to do so. Rather, the study of religion should enrich your understanding of people, history, literature, politics, culture, society, and the world in which you live.

**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 the academic study of religion;
- be able to think critically about religion as a human phenomenon.

**Required Text:**

Theodore M. Ludwig, *The Sacred Paths of the West*, 3rd edition (Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2001) (also on reserve at the library – two hour loan).

If buying this book second-hand, be sure that you are buying the 3rd edition of the book.

**Additional cuLearn Resources**

In cuLearn, you will find many additional learning resources for this course:

- Power-point files for each of the lectures. You may print them out to bring with you to lecture as an aid to note-taking, but note: they are insufficient substitutes for attending class. They are intended to help you stay on point in lecture, but will be incomplete as study guides on their own without your added lecture notes to supplement them.
- A model assignment that shows you a “very good” (not perfect) paper from the past so that you can see what it looks like. It would be a bad idea to copy it and hand it in as your own. The model assignment also shows how your title-page must look.
- Study guides (comprising lists of information you need to master) for the midterm and for the final exam respectively.
- Past Midterm and Final Exam to use as study tools.

**Evaluation**

Field Work Assignment – 30% (4 pages; due Wednesday Nov 8, 2017)

Midterm Exam – 30% (covering History lectures only; Wednesday Oct 18 in class)

Final Exam – 40% (during exam schedule Dec 10-22 – date & time TBA)

## **CLASS SCHEDULE:**

W Sept 6 Introduction to the Course  
M Sept 11 Introduction to the Study of Religion

### **SECTION I: HISTORY**

W Sept 13 &  
M Sept 18 Judaism: History (Ludwig ch 6)  
  
W Sept 20 &  
M Sept 25 Christianity: History (Ludwig Ch 9)  
  
W Sept 27 &  
M Oct 2 Islam: History (Ludwig Ch 12)  
  
W Oct 4 Catch up/finish up history/ midterm prep  
  
M Oct 9 THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

### **SECTION II: BELIEFS, TEXTS, & THEOLOGIES**

W Oct 11 &  
M Oct 16 Judaism: Beliefs (Ludwig Ch. 7)  
  
**W Oct 18 *Midterm Exam (History only: material up to & including Oct 4)***  
  
M Oct 23 &  
W Oct 25 FALL BREAK  
  
M Oct 30 &  
W Nov 1 Christianity: Beliefs (Ludwig Ch 10)  
  
M Nov 6 &  
W Nov 8 Islam: Beliefs (Ludwig Ch 13) *\*Field work assignment due at the beginning of class\**

### **SECTION III: PRAXIS & HOLY DAYS**

M Nov 13 &  
W Nov 15 Judaism: Practices and Observances (Ludwig Ch 8)  
  
M Nov 20 &  
W Nov 22 Christianity: Practices and Observances (Ludwig Ch 11)  
  
M Nov 27 &  
W Nov 29 Islam: Practices and Observances (Ludwig Ch 14)

### **SECTION IV: LIVING RELIGIONS – CHALLENGES & DEVELOPMENTS**

M Dec 4 &  
W Dec 6 Newer Religious Movements (Ludwig Ch 15)  
  
\*Fri Dec 8 Conclusions

*Note: Fri Dec 8 follows a Monday schedule, so this is a scheduled class that is required by the University*

## Email Communication

- Carleton's Connect Mail is the official mode of email communication for all matters having to do with the university and with this course. All communications sent by Connect 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. 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).

## Midterm Exam (30%)

- October 18, in class, \*starting at 2:30 and ending at 4:00\*
- 80 multiple choice questions; 90 minute exam
- Written on scantron sheets;
- Covering only the lectures and readings on the History component of the course.

## Final Exam (40%)

- Final exam will be a multiple-choice exam written on scantron sheets.
- Final exam will cover material from the WHOLE course (including history).
- 120 questions; 2 hour exam.
- The final exam content will be drawn from the text book and the lectures equally. The date, time, and place of the exam is selected by the university, not by me.

## Field Work Assignment (30%; Due Nov 8, beginning of class; 4 pages)

### Rules for handing it in:

- \*Papers cannot be submitted electronically.
- To hand in your paper: bring it to class, on time at the beginning of class Nov 8. Any time after this, your paper will be considered late and penalized accordingly (see below).
- If you would like to hand it in early, you can: put your paper in the drop box at the Religion and Classics department (a large locked wooden box on the wall outside 2a39 Paterson Hall), or hand it in to me while I'm in my office.
- If you are not handing in your paper at the beginning of class Nov 8, DO NOT put your paper under my office door, or anyone's office door, or hand them to anyone but me, or the aforementioned drop box.
- Late Penalties: **Written assignments are due on the specified date.** There will be a penalty of 2% per day (including weekends) from the mark of your paper unless an extension has been arranged **before the due date.** Retroactive extensions will be granted only according to the rules of the university: personal and family emergencies (for which documentation must be provided). Extensions will not be granted because of essay or exam conflicts, busy schedules, jobs, life, etc.

### Technical Guidelines:

- Proof-read your work several times before handing it in, or ask someone whose writing skills are strong to do it. Needless and countless errors of spelling, grammar, and syntax are a serious impediment to effective writing and communication, and these *will* affect your grade. Take a low grade in this section seriously, as the expectations of writing quality in university become greater and greater each year.
- All papers must be double spaced (not 1 or 1.5), must have default margins (usually 2.5cm), and must not appear in a font size smaller than 12 point. The manipulation of these things in order to make a shorter paper appear longer or a longer paper appear shorter will be noticed. Efficiency of language and focus on a task are required for working within assigned page or word limitations.
- Papers that venture too far from these requirements and limits (by page limits, appearance, or content) will be penalized, and in the most egregious cases will be returned ungraded for resubmission (and late

penalties will accrue from the due date, regardless of when the problem is discovered). Therefore, read the directions carefully and follow them.

- The final assignment should be 4 pages, typed, double-spaced, with page numbers on each page but the title page. Page restrictions will be strictly enforced and heavy penalties will be applied to papers that are more than 4 pages. Papers that venture too far from these page limits will be heavily penalized, and in the most egregious cases will be returned ungraded for resubmission (and late penalties will accrue from the due date, regardless of when the problem is discovered). Therefore, please abide by the page limit. If in doubt, ASK ME!
- When you submit your paper, please simply staple the pages together. Do not put them in any kind of binder or folder. These will be removed and thrown away so that the papers can be more easily handled and identified.
- Retain Copies of Work Submitted: It is crucial that you retain a hard copy of all assignments/take home tests submitted in every course. Also remember to do a computer/disk back-up. Please submit originals for marking, however, not photocopies. Papers **cannot** under any circumstances be submitted electronically (i.e., by email), but must be printed and submitted as hard copy.

### **Field Work Assignment Instructions:**

- This assignment involves attending a Jewish, Christian, or Muslim religious service and writing about it. If you choose a tradition too close to your own (say, Catholic to Anglican, Shi'a to Sunni), you may find the exercise more difficult. The point of the exercise is to **hone your critical observation skills**, and this is most easily done (for you) in a tradition other than one you may be accustomed to seeing regularly. Regardless of which tradition you choose to observe, you should read the relevant chapter in the textbook before you visit the place of worship – even if it has not yet been assigned in class.
- You must attend a **formal worship** (i.e., a service with a sermon) **in a formal place of worship** (i.e., not a High School Easter service in a gymnasium, or a house-church of a Christian or Muslim denomination). Also, a wedding, or bar mitzvah, funeral, etc. are not formal worships. The sorts of things you are asked to consider will not be offered by these informal or other settings, and so your paper will be missing important elements. “Evensong” services, short evening services, services held on any other day than Saturday for Jews, Sunday for Christians, and Friday for Muslims will probably not contain all the formal aspects we are asking you to observe, so you attend these at the risk of missing important elements for your paper.
- All traditions expect you to dress modestly in worship. You do not need to wear a suit and tie or fancy dress, but neither should you be in shorts and a t-shirt. Dressing modestly generally means having your arms and legs fully covered. You do not need to own your own *kippah* to attend a Jewish synagogue; if the place expects all men (and sometimes women) to wear one, there will almost certainly be some provided near the front entrance. Women attending Mosque should cover their hair with a scarf – it does not have to be fancy, but it should be large enough to be effective.
- The secret to mixing in is to observe what others are doing, and imitate them. But remember, you are an outsider, and outsiders are generally given some latitude when it comes to the rules. Anyone who makes the attempt and is respectful will not have any difficulties at all. Do not be late to the worship service, and if you go with friends, do not talk to each other during the service. Find a quiet place to sit and observe (stand when the rest of the congregation does, etc.), but **do not take notes during the service – either with pen and paper or on electronic devices**. In some traditions, either option would be considered a grave offense. Also be sure to have your phones etc. turned off and out of sight – most traditions will also consider it a grave offense for you to have an electronic device open in front of you during their service.
- Pick up any written material that may be available, and if there are any possibilities for asking questions from the leader or a member of the congregation before or after the service, take advantage of them. Write down your notes as soon as possible after the service (once you are out of the building), so that you get a clear record. If you wait too long, you will find that you cannot remember all the details. It may help for you to attend a service at the same place and time more than once.

- Your paper must treat each of the following points, and each point must be presented under the following headings (the percent values indicate how much the section is worth, not what percentage of your paper it should comprise):

**WARNING:** You may not consult or even look at papers written in past years. You also may not look at a paper written by someone else in the course *this year*. You must write this paper entirely on your own. It's YOUR observations we're looking for, and YOUR experience we want recorded. The model assignment is provided in order to address your anxiety about what this paper is supposed to look like. Failure to obey this order will result in a charge of academic misconduct, and possibly plagiarism.

### Assignment Structure and Marking Scheme

Component	Value	Instructions
Title Page	See below	the title page <b>MUST</b> be formatted according to the model assignment.
Heading 1: <b>Identification</b>	<b>5%</b>	Identify the religious tradition, the sect or denomination, and the name and address of the place of worship; list the date and time of the service, and the type of service attended.
Heading 2: <b>Building</b>	<b>20%</b>	Describe the inside and outside of the building. What indicates that this is a religious institution? What representative religious symbols are visible? What kind of art or decoration is there inside? How does it, or its absence, affect the experience? Are there different areas marked off within the worship space? What is the focal area for the worship space? Is the building or focal point facing in a certain direction? It is not necessary to describe other areas inside the building besides the main worship area.
Heading 3: <b>Congregation</b>	<b>15%</b>	How many people are present? What is the distribution of age and gender? What is the ethnic composition? Is there gender separation? Are children visible? If so, are they participating? If not, where are they? Describe the role of the congregation in the service.
Heading 4: <b>Leadership</b>	<b>15%</b>	What is the leader's full name, sex, and approximate age? How are leadership roles indicated by dress and location? Do there seem to be different leaders with different functions? If so, what are they?
Heading 5: <b>Service</b>	<b>30%</b>	How long was the worship service? Describe how it progressed in great detail. Which step seemed to be the most important? What kind of symbolic objects were used? What language(s) were used? Were there different languages used at different times? Was there music of any type? If so, describe it. Describe in great detail what the sermon was about. How much did the congregation or members from the congregation participate in the service?
Use of Headings	<b>5%</b>	Use the headings outlined above
Writing Style, Clarity, Grammar	<b>10%</b>	Righting that has more than you're fair share of spelling errors will be marked accordingly (sic). Also counted in this section: use of page numbers and formatting the title page according to the template provided

- Although you may go to the place of worship with another student, each student must write his or her own paper independently. Shared phrases, and even specific details in a shared order, will set off the “plagiarism” alarms. Also, you must describe the service as it was on the day you visited; do not describe the service as it “usually” or “generally” is. That is, you must go to a service during the current semester, not simply write this from the memory of one you attended in the past.

The following is a list of places of worship you may choose to visit. You may select another if you wish, anywhere in the world where you happen to be during the course. Do not call any of these places to ask permission (it drives them crazy!). Also, be warned, that sometimes services and parts of services happen in Hebrew, Arabic, Greek, etc., and it’s not always predictable. If this happens to you, especially during the sermon, ask someone nearby after the service to help. If you aren’t able to do that, you may want to choose another service. Let me apologize in advance if that happens to you.

Also: service beginning times can change depending on the time of year. Check the website of the place you want to visit to make sure you know the current exact start time of the service you are planning to attend before you go.

## **Jewish**

Orthodox:

Congregation Machzikei Hadas

2310 Virginia Drive, Ottawa

521-9700

<http://www.machzikeihadas.com/index.htm>

Men should wear suit jackets; head coverings for married women.

Shabbat Services on Saturdays 8:30 a.m.

Conservative:

Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation

1400 Coldrey Avenue, Ottawa

728-3501

Shabbat Services on Saturdays 8:45am

<http://kehillatbethisrael.com/>

Reform:

Temple Israel

1301 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa

224-1802

Shabbat Services on Saturdays 10:15am

<http://www.templeisraelottawa.ca/>

## **Christian**

Christ Church Cathedral

Sparks & Bronson, Ottawa

236-9149

Service begins at 8:30am, Sundays

<http://ottawa.anglican.ca/cathedral/>

St. Patrick's Basilica  
281 Nepean Street, Ottawa  
233-1125

Services on Sundays at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:15 pm, or 9:00 pm (you only have to choose one!)  
<http://www.basilica.org/>

First Baptist Church  
140 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa  
234-3261  
Service begins at 10:30am, Sundays  
<http://www.firstbaptistottawa.ca/>

## **Muslim**

Ottawa Mosque  
251 Northwestern Avenue, Ottawa  
722-8763

Details: Dress code, modest clothing for men and women, head covering for women. Women upstairs, men downstairs.

Friday Service begins at 12:25pm  
<http://www.omaonline.ca/>



## University Regulations for All Humanities Courses

### Copies of Written Work Submitted

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

### Academic Integrity at Carleton

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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, and material on the internet. More information can be found on <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/#AIatCU>.

### Academic Accommodation Policy

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#### **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 the 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 [Student Guide](#)

**Religious obligation:** write to the 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 [Student Guide](#)

**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](mailto: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).

## Grading System at Carleton University

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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 is below. 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.

[Grading System Chart](#)

## Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

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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).

## Statement on Class Conduct

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The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity,
- prevent discrimination and harassment, and

preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.

## Deferred Term Work

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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.

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 (3.0) 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. More information is available [in the calendar](#).

## Deferred Exams

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Students who do not write/attend a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply to write a deferred examination.

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 [forms and fees page](#).

The granting of a deferral also requires that the student has performed satisfactorily in the course according to the evaluation scheme established in the Course Outline, excluding the final examination for which deferral privileges are requested. Reasons for denial of a deferral may include, among other conditions, a failure to (i) achieve a minimum score in the course before the final examination; (ii) attend a minimum number of classes; (iii) successfully complete a specific task (e.g. term paper, critical report, group project, computer or other assignment); (iv) complete laboratory work; (v) successfully complete one or more midterms; or (vi) meet other reasonable conditions of successful performance.

More information can be found [in the calendar](#).

Any questions related to deferring a Final Exam or Final Assignment/Take Home Examination should be directed to: [Registrar's Office](#)

## Withdrawal From Courses

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Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA.

**NEW FALL 2017:** WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term. Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

**Dates can be found here:** <http://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>

## Department Contact Information

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**College of the Humanities** 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809

[CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca)

Drop box for CLCV, HUMS LATN GREK Term Papers and assignments is outside 300 P.A.

**Greek and Roman Studies** 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809

[GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca)

Drop Box is outside of 300 P.A.

**Religion** 2A39 Paterson Hall (613)520-2100

[Religion@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:Religion@cunet.carleton.ca)

Drop box for RELI Term Papers and assignments is outside of 2A39 P.A.

**Registrar's Office** 300 Tory (613)520-3500

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/>

## Student Resources on Campus

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[CUKnowHow Website](#)