

CARLETON UNIVERSITY

College of the Humanities - Religion Program

RELI 1720A: Indigenous Religions in Global Context

Fall 2017

Course Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays; 11:35am-12:55pm

Room: 3328 ME

Professor: Stanley Uche Anozie

Email: Stanley.Anozie3@Carleton.ca

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:55pm-1:55pm; Thursdays, 12:55pm-1:55pm (or by appointment)

Office: 310A Paterson

Course Description:

This course illuminates a recent category of “World Religions” by examining cases from all five continents, as well as in diaspora (e.g., Brazilian Candomblé, Roma/Sinti religion). Key considerations include the study of minority religions, religion in oral cultures, myth and ritual studies, colonialism, globalization.

Required Texts:

- a) Bahr, Ann Marie B., 2005, *Religions of the World: Indigenous Religions*. Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publisher.

http://www.e-reading.club/bookreader.php/135005/Religions_of_the_World_Indigenous_Religions.pdf

- b) <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/media/downloads/9780800698799Chapter1.pdf>

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

1. Depth and breadth of knowledge

- a. Students recognize some of the important concepts, methods, and assumptions in the study of Indigenous religions.

b. Students begin to appreciate how critical reflections on religions draw on and intersect with other academic disciplines.

2. Knowledge of methodologies

a. Students are acquainted with various approaches to understanding the philosophical narratives about Indigenous religions.

b. Students can begin to evaluate strategies for solving problems that arise in the discourse or study.

3. The application of knowledge

a. Students can use information and marshal evidence to develop an argument.

4. Communication skills

a. Students can express their ideas effectively, in both written and oral forms.

5. Awareness of limits of knowledge

a. Students can begin to appreciate some of the ambiguities and uncertainties involved in the discipline.

Course Requirements/Evaluation:

15%-----First Essay to be handed in (covers topics of Weeks 1-4); 2-4 pages to be submitted on September 28.

15%-----Second Essay to be handed in (covers topics of Weeks 5-8); 2-4 pages to be submitted on November 2.

15%-----Third Essay to be handed in (covers topics of Weeks 9-12); 2-4 pages to be submitted on November 30.

30%----- Final Exam (scheduled exam to be determined by Examination Services. Examination Period: December 10-22.); Short answer exam.

25%-----Attendance /Participation in class (Incentive Program—10%)

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS) Incentive Program:

Students will attend 3 workshops on 'critical thinking' through CSAS Incentive Program. Please contact: Lakin Dagg, BA, M.Ed. (Student Support Officer, Centre for Student Academic Support); Phone (613) 520-2600 ext. 1869; Email at Lakin.Dagg@carleton.ca

Course Schedule: Topics

Week 1 (September 7) ----Introduction

Week 2 (September 12 and 14) ----Definition of 'Indigenous Religions', Nature of Religion (Bahr, Introduction)

Week 3 (September 19 and 21) ----The Adivasis of India and Strategies for Understanding Religious Experiences (Bahr, Chapter 2)

Week 4 (September 26 and 28) ----Rationality of Religious Beliefs and Oral Cultures (Bahr, Chapter 2 continued)

Week 5 (October 3 and 5) ----African Indigenous Religions (Bahr, Chapter 3)

Week 6 (October 10 and 12) ----African Religions: Diversity and Interpretations (Bahr, Chapter 3 continued)

Week 7 (October 17 and 19) ----African Esotericism with a Concentration on the Igbos: Human Existence and Sanctified Life (Bahr, Chapter 3 continued). Notes will be provided.

Week 8 (October 31 and November 2) ----African Religions—Yoruba Traditions and Diaspora Worldviews (e.g., Brazilian Candomblé, Roma/Sinti religion)

<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2015/10/the-spirituality-of-africa/>

<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/seen-and-unseen-spirituality-among-dagara-people>

Week 9 (November 7 and 9) ----Australian Aboriginal Peoples (Bahr, Chapter 4)

Week 10 (November 14 and 16) ----North American and South American Religions/Ethics (Bahr, Chapter 5)

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/religion-of-aboriginal-people/>

Week 11 (November 21 and 23) ----The Mayas and Quechas Religious Narratives (Bahr, Chapters 6-7)

Week 12 (November 28 and 30) ----Christianity and Indigenous Religions (Colonialism and Globalization)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OoxNyNWFvZw>

Week 13 (December 5 and 7) ---Myth, Symbols, Rituals and Narratives (Oral Cultures and Interdisciplinary Reflections)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxqMzBSEMNI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApPkdyLzDI4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxqMzBSEMNI>

Examination period Dec. 10 – 22 (*do not make travel plans within these dates*)

Keys to Success in this Course:

- Remaining up-to-date with all reading assignments.
- Preparing responses to the review questions at the end of each chapter for class discussions.
- Taking effective notes in class.
- Participating in the class discussions.
- Be punctual in class (5 minutes before).



University Regulations for 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.

Academic Integrity at Carleton

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

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 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Drop Box is outside of 300 P.A.

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall (613)520-2100

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

[CUKnowHow Website](#)