

**RELI 2200 Christianity**  
**Winter 2022**  
**Religion, College of the Humanities**  
<https://carleton-ca.zoom.us/j/97396096879>

**Updated: 2022-01-01**

**Instructor:** E. Guillen

[Esther.guillen@carleton.ca](mailto:Esther.guillen@carleton.ca)

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2-3pm, or by appointment

### **COURSE DELIVERY**

This course will be delivered synchronously via Zoom. Lectures will not be recorded.

All course meetings (lectures, office hours, and scheduled appointments) will be via <https://carleton-ca.zoom.us/j/97396096879>.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to the diverse and ever-changing beliefs and practices of Christianity from its beginnings to the present day. We will discuss the histories, texts, and rituals of diverse sects. We will work always from a historical and critical perspective, never from a theological or confessional one.

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- begin understanding the academic study of religion
- define and explain core concepts of Christianity throughout history
- think critically about religion as a human phenomenon
- analyse primary-source texts
- analyze and engage with secondary-source texts
- write an academic-appropriate film review

### **EVALUATION**

1. Reading Responses (5 x 5%)	25%
2. Unit Reflections (2 x 15%)	30%
3. Film Review	20%
4. Final Exam (take-home)	25%

- 1. Reading Responses (5 x 5% = 25%):** One-page, double-spaced, written reflections on specific assigned readings, with no outside research. Reflect on what you found most interesting about the reading, and why. Your writing should be well-organized and concise, with a clear unifying theme. I want to hear about what you found compelling in

the reading. Due January 24<sup>th</sup>, February 7<sup>th</sup>, February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, March 30<sup>th</sup>. DUE BEFORE CLASS.

2. **Unit Reflections (2 x 15% = 30%)**: Five-minute recorded video or audio presentations on themes from specific units, **due two days following the end of the unit**, at the end of the day. So, if you choose to present on Unit One, you must submit your recording by the end of the day on January 26<sup>th</sup>. For Unit Two, submit by the end of the day on February 4<sup>th</sup>, etc. You may present on the overall unit theme (The First “Christians”; Christianity and Colonization), drawing connections, with specific examples, between particular topics, or you may present on one or two topics from within the Unit (baptism; Vladimir the Great; Christian-sponsored residential schools). Some outside research is required; you must use at least two additional scholarly sources for each presentation. You must complete two Unit Reflections over the semester.
3. **Film Review (20%)**: three-page review of a film of your choice. Discuss why you choose the film, and how you think it fits within the course themes. Due **March 16<sup>th</sup>** by end of day. Films must deal specifically and intentionally with Christian themes (like *Passion of the Christ* or *Dogma*) but NOT narratives from the Hebrew Bible (NOT *Noah* or *Prince of Egypt*). You may choose on your own or select from the list of Christian-themed films on Brightspace. Be careful when choosing, and if in doubt, ask! See Film Review Brief in Brightspace for specific instructions.
4. **Final Exam (25%)**: You will be asked to respond to two or three prompts, in essay format, using only course materials. Prompts will be provided at the beginning of the final exam period. NO OUTSIDE RESEARCH. Due **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day, beginning immediately after the time the assignment is due.**

## **READINGS:**

There is no textbook for this course. All readings will be posted on, or linked through, Brightspace. Podcast and film links can be found in the schedule below.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

### **Unit 0: Introduction, parameters, context**

Monday, January 10: Course Introduction; setting our expectations. What is religion? What is Christianity? What is religious studies, and how do we do it?

### **Unit 1: The “first” “Christians”**

Wednesday, January 12: Second Temple Judaism; Jesus of Nazareth; the Jesus Movement; the four canonical gospels; baptism

Read: Mark (all); Matthew 1:1 to 2:23; Luke 1:26-38 and 2:1-40

Watch: From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part One

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/showsreligion/#video-1>

Monday, January 17: Christ-followers; Paul (of Tarsus); the letters of the New Testament; eucharist

Read: Acts 8:1-3, 9:1-31, 13:1-43; Philemon (all); 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; Matthew 26:17-30

Watch: From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part Two

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/showsreligion/#video-2>

Wednesday, January 19: Roman persecution; Church Fathers; other gospels; prayer

Read: *First Apology*, Justin Martyr; Gospel of Judas; The Prayer of Thanksgiving; Infancy Gospel of Thomas

Monday, January 24: Constantine the Great; Edicts of Toleration; Arianism; Council at Nicaea

Read: Nicene Creed; Edict of Milan

**Reading Response #1 Due:** Arnal, William. “The Collection and Synthesis of ‘Tradition’ and the Second-Century Invention of Christianity.” *MTSR* 23, no. 3/4 (2011): 193–215.

## **Unit 2: Spread of Christianity**

Wednesday, January 26: the British Isles. Guest Lecturer: Briar Bennett-Flammer, PhD Candidate at McGill University.

Read: TBA

Monday, January 31: Gaul; Clovis I; First Council of Orleans; liturgical music

Read: *History of the Franks*, Gregory of Tours, Book 2:28-43; Maurer-Dass, Sonja. “Medieval Music: Introduction to Gregorian Chant.” *Medievalists.Net* (blog), July 18, 2021.

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/07/introduction-gregorian-chant/>.

Watch: “Gregorian Chant,” Early Music Sources.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuRrd35kvUo&t=23s>

Wednesday, February 2: Vladimir the Great and the Kievan Rus; day-to-day Christianization; dietary restrictions; Christian cookery. Guest lecturer: Sonya Pihura, PhD Candidate at McGill University.

Read: TBA

## **Unit 3: Church sponsored violence**

Monday, February 7: Schism 1; excommunication; Eastern Orthodoxy

Listen: “The Schism.” In Our Time <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0054921>

**Reading Response #2 Due:** Resnick, Irven. “Dietary Laws in Medieval Christian-Jewish Polemics: A Survey.” *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* 6, no. 1 (2011): 1–15.

Wednesday, February 9: Crusade(s); children’s and shepherd’s crusades; Cathar heresy  
Read: Allen, S J, and Emilie Amt. “The First Crusade: Urban II’s Call for a Crusade.” In *The Crusades: A Reader*, Second., 33–42. Readings in Medieval Civilizations and Cultures, Viii. North York: University of Toronto Press, 2014.

Monday, February 14: Who is Saint Valentine; Inquisition(s); confession; penance: *The Summoning of Everyman*  
Read: Gropnik, Adam. “Inquiring Minds: The Spanish Inquisition Revisited.” *The New Yorker*, January 9, 2012. <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2012/01/16/inquiring-minds>.  
Watch: “The Spanish Inquisition.” *Monty Python’s The Flying Circus*, 1971.

Wednesday, February 16: Schism 2; popes and antipopes; Avignon papacy  
Read: TBA

February 21, 23: Reading Week

#### **Unit 4: Safe sects**

Monday, February 28: Protestant Reformation; marriage; clericalism

Listen: “Wedding Rituals” The Baba Yaga Project

#### **Reading Response #3 Due**

Wednesday, March 2: Counter-Reformation; Jesuits; ordination

Monday, March 7: Who’s the boss: The English Reformation; Oliver Cromwell; George Fox; William Penn

#### **Reading Response #4 Due**

Wednesday, March 9: The Road So Far (review day)

#### **Unit 5: Christianity and colonization**

Monday, March 14: Missionaries; Greenland; Africa; Christian argument for the African slave trade; slave baptisms

Wednesday, March 16: South and Central America; witch trials

#### **Film Review Due**

Monday, March 21: What’s up with the Pilgrims? Guest lecturer: Margot Mathieu, MA and public historian.

Read: TBA

Wednesday, March 23: Christian-sponsored residential schools

**Unit 6: Christianity in the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> century**

Monday, March 28: The Christian Year; the reinvention of Christmas

Watch: *The Muppet Christmas Carol* (1992) (available through the Carleton library)

Listen: “Christmas: A History” The Baba Yaga Project

Wednesday, March 30: The Christian Year; the reinvention of Easter

**Reading Response #5 Due**

Monday, April 4: The Great Awakenings; birth of evangelicalism; persecution?; Mormonism

Wednesday, April 6: Apocalypticism; prosperity gospel; the “new right”; purity culture

Monday, April 11: What is Christianity?



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

*Greek and Roman Studies* 300  
Paterson Hall  
[GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca)

*Religion* 2A39  
Paterson Hall  
[Religion@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:Religion@cunet.carleton.ca)

*Digital Humanities (Graduate)* 2A39 Paterson Hall  
[digitalhumanities@carleton.ca](mailto:digitalhumanities@carleton.ca)

*Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor)* 300 Paterson Hall  
[digitalhumanities@carleton.ca](mailto:digitalhumanities@carleton.ca)

*MEMS (Undergraduate Minor)* 300  
Paterson Hall  
[CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca)