

Maccabees to Mohammed: RELI 2710A

Monday + Wednesday 11:30-1pm; 240 Tory

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Course Objectives

This course introduces students to the early history and literature of the three Western monotheistic traditions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Key notions encountered will include: Apocalypticism, the origins of Messianism, belief in life after death, ideas about authority (textual vs. charismatic/visionary), the negotiation of identity and community boundaries, the place and role of law, the status of women, and evolving conceptions of God and his relationship to human communities. These ideas, which shaped Western culture to a large degree and continue to do so, have a specific history; it is therefore important to understand their origin and development within the context of ancient politics, culture, and religion. Students will be expected to engage primary texts critically and to consider the origins and development of central tenets of these three faiths while encountering them as integral cultural systems on their own terms. This course seeks to inculcate critical thinking skills, an informed understanding of these three religious traditions, and greater cultural literacy in the Western tradition.

Evaluation

Fall Essay (25%) – due December 5
December Exam (25%) – date set by Exam Services, December 8-21

Course Text Books

Available at Octopus Books (in the Glebe), 116 Third Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2K1 (613) 233-2589

FALL:

The Golden Ass, Apuleius
The Elements of Style, Strunk and White
Course Pack (for all additional readings*)

* Except biblical or apocryphal texts, which are found in the *Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha* (purchased for Hums 1000) and are marked with an *.

Schedule for Fall Semester

- Sept 12 Introduction
- Sept 14 Review of biblical period (Hums 1000)
- Sept 19 Return from Exile – rebuilding Temple
Read: Ezra,* Schwartz 19-22
- Sept 21 Greek Period
Read: 1 Maccabees,* Schwartz 22-48
- Sept 26 Martyrdom, Apocalypticism, and Life after Death
Read: Book of Daniel,* 1 Enoch: 83-90; 96-97
- Sept 28 Qumran
Read: Schiffman 275-299
- Oct 3 Sectarianism
Read: Cohen 160-173, Schiffman 266-272, Philo “On the Contemplative Life”
- Oct 5 Diaspora
Read: Fine Chs. 9 & 11
- Oct 10 Thanksgiving: NO CLASS
- Oct 12 Jewish Philosophy – Philo (LEARNING CELL)
Read: “On the Unchangeableness of God”
- Oct. 17 Roman Religion
Read: Apuleius, *The Golden Ass*
- Oct 19 Paul the Apostle
Read: Galatians,* 1 Corinthians*
- Oct 24 Pauline Theology
Read: Romans*
- Oct 26 First Gospel
Read: Gospel of Mark*
- Oct 31 War with Rome
Read: Josephus ch. 17 & 21, Schiffman 462-464
- Nov 2 Rabbinic Response
Read: Schiffman 471-472, 491-495; Mishnah *Avot*

- Nov 7 Early Sayings of Jesus
Read: Q (WebCT), Gospel of Thomas
- Nov 9 Gospel to the Jews
Read: Gospel of Matthew*
- Nov 14 Gospel to the Gentiles
Read: Gospel of Luke*
- Nov 16 Dualism and “Gnosticism”
Read: Gospel of John* and Apocryphon of John
- Nov 21 Movie: *Life of Brian*
NO READING
- Nov 23 Apocalyptic Rhetoric and Visions of the End
Read: Apocalypse of John* (aka Book of Revelation)
- Nov 28 Paper Writing 101
Read: *Elements of Style*
- Nov 30 Paper Workshop (Please bring your paper to class; *you must have a complete 1st draft* for someone to read and correct.)
- Dec 5 Papers Due / Exam Review

REGULATIONS COMMON TO 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.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct 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

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 5, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 5, 2012**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and 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. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov.11, 2011 for the Fall term and March 7, 2012 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please **contact** the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library