



**JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM:  
FROM MACCABEES TO MUHAMMAD  
RELI 2710 A  
Winter Term 2013  
College of Humanities**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Timothy Pettipiece, PhD ([Timothy\\_Pettipiece@carleton.ca](mailto:Timothy_Pettipiece@carleton.ca))

**WINTER TERM:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:05-2:35 (Jan 08, 2012 - Apr 09, 2012)

**WHERE:** Paterson 303

**OFFICE HOURS:** TBA

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course aims to continue to introduce students to the early literature and history of the great monotheistic traditions, especially Christianity and Islam. In particular, the course will examine key aspects of the social, literary, cultural, and intellectual development of these three interrelated traditions from approximately the Destruction of the Second Temple to the founding of Baghdad. Special attention will be given to reading a diversity of primary texts (in translation), thereby allowing some of the key figures of these religious traditions to speak in their own voices. Students will be required to engage these primary texts critically, to appreciate the diversity of opinions within and across traditions, and to situate them in a broad socio-historical context. Since this material will be approached from a *non-confessional*, religious studies perspective, students are invited to set aside their preconceptions in order to gain a more nuanced understanding of the early and classical development of this hugely influential family of religions.

**TEXTBOOKS:**

F. E. Peters, *Children of Abraham: Judaism, Christianity, Islam. A New Edition* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004) ISBN-10: 0-691-12769-7 (required)

-this concise, comparative treatment of the three traditions is meant to provide an overarching synthesis and framework in which lecture material can be situated

**EVALUATION:**

Winter Essay (25%)—Due April 9 (see details below)

Winter Exam (25%)—Multiple choice and short answer (date TBA)

**WINTER TERM SYLLABUS**

Course readings and additional material will be placed on CULearn.

**JAN 8 T INTRODUCTION TO LATE ANTIQUITY**

**JAN 10 Th DYING FOR A CAUSE**

Pliny's *Letter to the Emperor Trajan* ([www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/pliny.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/pliny.html))

Ignatius of Antioch, *Letter to the Romans* ([www.newadvent.org/fathers/0107.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0107.htm))

**JAN 15 T MAKING THE CASE**

Athenagoras, *A Plea for Christians* ([www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/athenagoras-plea.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/athenagoras-plea.html))

Celsus, fragments from *On True Doctrine* (<http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/celsus.html>)

**JAN 17            Th        THE RIGHT WAY TO READ**

Ptolemaeus, *Letter to Flora* ([www.gnosis.org/library/flora.htm](http://www.gnosis.org/library/flora.htm))

Origen, *Commentary on John Book 1* ([www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/origen-john1.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/origen-john1.html))

**JAN 29            T            ATHENS AND JERUSALEM**

Clement, *Stromata*, Book 1 ch. 5 ([www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/clement-stromata-book1.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/clement-stromata-book1.html))

Tertullian, *Prescription of the Heretics* ([www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/tertullian11.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/tertullian11.html))

**JAN 31            Th        TEACHERS AND STUDENTS**

Eusebius, *Life of Origen* (*History of the Church*, Book 6)

(<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/250106.htm>)

Porphyry, *Life of Plotinus* ([www.sacred-texts.com/cla/plotenn/enn001.htm](http://www.sacred-texts.com/cla/plotenn/enn001.htm))

**FEB 5             T            BUILDING A NEW WORLD VIEW**

Origen, *On First Principles*, Book 1, Introduction ([www.newadvent.org/fathers/04120.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/04120.htm))

**FEB 7             Th        RELIGION AND EMPIRE**

*Edicts of Toleration* (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/edict-milan.html>)

*Inscription of Kirdir* (<http://www.avesta.org/mp/kz.html>)

**FEB 12           T            PROPHET OF LIGHT**

Manichaean Psalm 223 (<http://www.gnosis.org/library/bc23.htm>)

Alexander of Lycopolis, *Against the Manichaeans* ([www.newadvent.org/fathers/0618.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0618.htm))

**FEB 14           Th        CHURCHES OF THE EAST**

Story of Abgar (Eusebius); *Ode of Solomon* 19 (<http://www.gnosis.org/library/odes.htm>)

\*Lieu, "Manichaean and Nestorian Christian Remains

(<http://www.anchist.mq.edu.au/doccentre/Zayton.htm>)

**\*Winter Break**

**FEB 26           T            RUN TO THE HILLS**

*Life of Paul the First Hermit* (<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/3008.htm>)

*Sayings of the Desert Fathers* ([http://en.orthodoxwiki.org/Sayings\\_of\\_the\\_Desert\\_Fathers](http://en.orthodoxwiki.org/Sayings_of_the_Desert_Fathers))

**FEB 28           Th        "WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?"**

Arius, *Letter to Alexander* ([www.fourthcentury.com/index.php/urkunde-6](http://www.fourthcentury.com/index.php/urkunde-6) )

Alexander, *Letter to All Bishops* ([www.fourthcentury.com/index.php/urkunde-4b](http://www.fourthcentury.com/index.php/urkunde-4b))

**MAR 5             T            CANONS AND CREEDS**

Letter of Eusebius on Nicaea ([www.newadvent.org/fathers/2804.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/2804.htm))

Nicaea (<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/3801.htm>)

**MAR 7             Th        CITY OF GOD**

Selections from *City of God* (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/aug-city2.html>)

**MAR 12           T            PRE-ISLAMIC ARABIA**

Classical Accounts (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/arabia1.html>)

\*Shahid, "Byzantium and the Arabs" (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/shahid.html>)

**MAR 14 Th MERCHANT OF MECCA**

Ibn Ishaq, *Life of Muhammad* (<http://facweb.furman.edu/~ateipen/almusharaka/lbnIshaq-Excerpt2.htm>)

Hadith (Selections) (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/misc-hadith.asp>)

**MAR 19 T THE QUR'ĀN I**

Surahs 1 and 47 (<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/koran-sel.asp>)

**MAR 21 Th THE QUR'ĀN II**

Surah 3 (<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/k/koran/koran-idx?type=DIV0&byte=72808>)

**MAR 26 T FROM UMMAH TO EMPIRE**

Selections from outsider reports on the rise of Islam

\*Donner, "Early Arab Conquests" ([www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/donner.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/donner.html))

**MAR 28 Th EARLY ISLAMIC LAW**

Pact of Umar (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/pact-umar.asp>)

*Conference of Baghdad Ulema* ([www.sacred-texts.com/isl/mub/mub.htm](http://www.sacred-texts.com/isl/mub/mub.htm))

**APR 2 T REASON AND REVELATION**

Ibn Rushd (Averroes), *Religion & Philosophy*

([www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1190averroes.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1190averroes.html))

**APR 4 Th SAINTS AND MYSTICS**

Rumi, Selections from the *Masnavi* ([www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1250rumi-masnavi.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1250rumi-masnavi.html))

Sayings of al-Hallaj ([www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/all-hallaj-quotations.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/all-hallaj-quotations.html))

**APR 9 T ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION**

Al-Biruni, *Monument of Chronology* ([www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1030al-biruni1.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1030al-biruni1.html))

Ibn Sina (Avicenna), *On Medicine* ([www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1020Avicenna-Medicine.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1020Avicenna-Medicine.html))

**Term Paper Due\***

**SELECTED WEB RESOURCES:**

Late Antiquity <http://www.nipissingu.ca/department/history/MUHLBERGER/ORB/LT-ATEST.HTM>

Ancient History Sourcebook <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.html>

Early Christian Writings <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/>

Fathers of the Church <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/>

Islamic History Sourcebook <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/islam/islamsbook.html>

**ESSAY (25%)—10 pages, Winter Essay Due April 9**

For your essay, you are invited to investigate in more detail one of the texts, authors, or themes from the course syllabus. Other topics are possible but must be approved by me beforehand. Once you have decided on a topic that peaks your interest, you are expected to find *at least five* relevant books and/or articles to serve as the basis of your paper from one of the three local university libraries. If you are investigating a particular text, you may choose to examine issues such as its original language, genre, social-setting, author, theological perspective, later reception, etc. If you choose to study a person, you should describe his or her social setting, career, major ideas, writings, historical significance, etc. Thematic papers should address broader issues and incorporate a wider array of sources. These suggestions are meant as a minimum and should not be interpreted as a formula. Remember! Any information taken from your sources and used in your paper must be properly referenced (either in footnotes or in parentheses). Failure to do so will result in an automatic loss of 10%. (NB: while websites can be an important starting point, references to websites will not be accepted as legitimate sources for your paper, with the exception of articles downloaded from JSTOR, or similar databases).

# TERM PAPER EVALUATION

## GENERAL RUBRIC DEFINITIONS

### **EXCELLENT ★**

- advanced understanding of source material with considerable critical analysis
- very well written, documented, and organized
- surpasses the requirements of the assignment

### **GOOD 👍**

- sufficient source material with some critical analysis
- well written, documented and organized
- meets the requirements of the assignment

### **ADEQUATE 😊**

- adequate source material with little critical analysis
- adequately written, documented, and organized
- just meets the requirements of the assignment

### **INADEQUATE 🙄**

- inadequate source material with no critical analysis
- inadequately written, documented, and disorganized
- barely meets the requirements of the assignment

### **UNACCEPTABLE 🙅**

- insufficient source material with no analysis
- poorly written, documented, and organized
- does not meet the requirements of the assignment



## GENERAL CRITERIA DEFINITIONS

**Length:** (at least) 10 pages (not including title and works cited pages)

**Presentation:** typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, standard margins, stapled w/ title page

**Style:** proper grammar, spelling, and syntax

**Documentation:** number of legitimate sources consulted

**Referencing:** *consistent* use of accepted referencing style (MLA, Chicago, SBL)

**Organization:** information is structured and presented in clear and readable manner

**Comprehension:** source material has been understood

**Critical Analysis:** reflection upon and critique of source material

## 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. 3, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 10, 2013**.

### 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/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

#### 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*).

#### 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 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library