

Carleton University FALL 2019

RELI 2736B / ANTH 2550B Religion and Society

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology and
the College of the Humanities: Religion**

Fridays 14:35-17:25

Southam Hall 304

Instructor: Alyshea Cummins

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 13:00 – 13:30 and by appointment

Teacher Assistant:

Email address:

Description: (as in the Undergraduate Calendar) Cross-cultural survey of religious institutions, focusing on theories and methodologies in the study of religion. Topics may include myth, totemism, cults, ritual, belief systems, altered states of consciousness, new religious and/or new age movements and the relationship of religion with other social institutions and processes.

Rationale: This course is an introductory survey of anthropological approaches to the study of religion. It traces the historical development of the subdiscipline, reviews the major theoretical perspectives, reviews the basic conceptual vocabulary, and discusses some of the issues and problems in research methodology.

Instruments of Evaluation: The Evaluation Procedures of the university are described in the Undergraduate Calendar. Final grades are subject to the Dean's approval and are not official until that approval has been received. There are four instruments of evaluation plus potential bonus marks. As stated in the Academic Regulations of the University, Section 2.1: "To obtain credit in a course, students must meet all the course requirements for attendance, term work and examinations as published in the course outline."

Instruments of Evaluation Summary:

Weekly Quizzes	20%	Weekly
Midterm	30%	October 18
Final Examination	35%	During Exam Period
Participation	15%	Participation & Class Assignments
*BONUS MARKS	3%	*See below

Weekly Quizzes:

- Weekly quizzes gage your attentiveness and help prepare you for tests
- Completed on cuLearn
- Available after class until 23:59 each following Sunday.
- There will be a total of 11 Quizzes
- The best 9 will count towards the final grade
- Content for the quizzes will be based on the previous lecture and required readings
- 4 - 10 questions
- Format: Multiple Choice, Short Answer, and Fill in the Blank
- Time limitations to prevent cheating

NOTE: There are no makeups for quizzes, however extra credit opportunities might be made available and will be announced (see *bonus marks*). In addition, if special events relevant to the course arise, your attendance and a short written report could also earn extra credit.

Participation Grade (15%):

- Earned by attending, participating in class, and completing class activities or assignments
- Class activities will be random and can happen during any class
- There will be 6 in-class activities or assignments, each worth 2.5% of your grade (2.5 x 6 = 15%)
- Participating in class 3 times over the semester can replace a missed activity

Bonus Marks:

Each student can earn up to 3% extra towards their final grade and/or makeup for missed Quizzes.

OPTION 1: Extra Credit Assignment: attending public lectures on religion at any university in Ottawa and writing a short critical summary on the content (3%) (see separate form on cuLearn)

OPTION 2: Extra Credit Research Presentation: students will be required to do a short 5-7 mins research presentation on topics relevant to any class. Presentations will happen during class time and will be graded out of 10. This option can be done in small groups of 2-3 students. (3%) (see separate form on cuLearn)

NOTE: If you are doing extra credit to makeup for a missed quiz, you must let the instructor know in writing (email preferably).

Text – Required Reading

Stein, Rebecca L. and Philip L. Stein. 2011. *The Anthropology of Religion, Magic and Witchcraft*, 4th edition. Allyn and Bacon, Boston.

This text was designed for courses like this. It is very strong in ethnography, case studies, and the presentation of the conceptual vocabulary of anthropology of religion.

Class Time

The course is presented in 12 three-hour classes, one break per class. Each class will include a lecture on new content and group discussions on the lecture and readings for that day. In addition, there will be various in-class assignments and activities to engage further with class material; these will count towards your participation grade.

Come to class. Attending class is the single most important thing you can do to achieve good results and attendance will be used in assigning a grade.

“Talking” is prohibited. “Participation” is encouraged.

SCHEDULE of CLASSES, READINGS and ASSIGNMENTS

(1) 09/06

Studying Religion

Review of the Course Outline and Instruments of Evaluation

Stein & Stein chapter 1 – “The Anthropological Study of Religion”

QUIZ #1 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 09/08**

(2) 09/13

Importance of Myths

Stein & Stein chapter 2 – “Mythology”

Video: “The Power of Myth” with Joseph Campbell

QUIZ #2 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 09/15**

(3) 09/20

Religious Symbols

Stein & Stein chapter 3 – “Religious Symbols” sacred art, space and time; music and dance

Visit Exhibit: “Olivia Johnston: Saints and Madonnas” at Carleton University Art Gallery (CUAG)

QUIZ #3 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 09/22**

(4) 09/27

Religious Rituals

Stein & Stein chapter 4 – “Ritual” – rites of passage

Video: “The Power of Myth” with Joseph Campbell

QUIZ #4 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 09/29**

(5) 10/04

Religious Experience

Stein & Stein chapter 5 – “Altered States of Consciousness”

QUIZ #5 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 10/06**

(6) 10/11

Religious Authorities

Stein & Stein chapters 6 – “Religious Specialists” – shamanism

Video: Huichol shamanism and pilgrimage

QUIZ #6 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 10/13**

(7) 10/18

MIDTERM TEST

**READING WEEK – No classes between October 21-25*

(8) 11/01

Magic and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 7 – “Magic and Divination”

QUIZ #7 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/03**

(9) 11/08

Death and the Afterlife

Stein & Stein chapter 8 – “Souls, Ghosts, and Death”

QUIZ #8 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/10**

(10) 11/15

God(s) and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 9 – “Gods and Spirits”

QUIZ #9 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/17**

(11) 11/22

Witchcraft and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 10 – “Witchcraft”

Video: The Burning Times

QUIZ #10 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/24**

(12) 11/29

A Changing Landscape

Stein & Stein chapter 11 – “The Search for New Meaning”

QUIZ #11 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 12/01**

FAQs

- 1. Do I have to attend the lectures?** Yes. Attending lectures and participation counts towards your grade (15%).
- 2. Do I need the textbook?** Yes. They will also be on reserve in the library.
- 3. Is there a Midterm Test?** Yes. In Class on **October 18**.
- 4. Is there a Final Exam?** Yes. Format will be given closer to date.
- 5. What if I miss a Quiz?** There are no makeups for quizzes. If you would like to ensure a good grade you can complete one or more Bonus Assignments or Presentations.
- 6. What if I miss a participation exercise?** Participating in class discussions 3 different times over the semester can replace a missed participation exercise.
- 7. What is the best way to reach you?** Office hours or by email.

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred (See above)	

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university’s website, here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

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 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*).

*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for final exams for **Fall 2019** exam period is **November 8, 2019**.

For Religious Obligations:

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, visit the Equity Services website:

www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Pregnancy:

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, visit the Equity Services website:

www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For 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:

www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

What are the Procedures?

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

Assistance for Students:

Academic and Career Development Services: <https://carleton.ca/career/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
- Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton’s Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario’s *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
- Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>

Important Dates – Fall 2019

September 2, 2019	Statutory holiday. University closed.
September 3, 2019	Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate). Orientation for Teaching Assistants. All students are expected to be on campus. Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students and other academic preparation activities will be held.
September 4, 2019	Fall term begins. Fall and fall/winter classes begin.
October 11, 2019	December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.
October 14, 2019	Statutory holiday. University closed.

SYLLABUS – RELI2736 / ANTH2550

<p>October 21-25, 2019 November 8, 2019</p>	<p>Fall break. Classes are suspended. Last day to request formal exam accommodations for December examinations to the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.</p>
<p>November 22, 2019</p>	<p>Last day for summative tests or examinations or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade before the official examination period (see examinations regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).</p>
<p>December 6, 2019</p>	<p>Fall term ends. Last day of fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for fall term courses. Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for winter term. Last day for take home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examinations regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar. Last day to pay any remaining fall tuition fees to avoid a hold on access to marks through Carleton Central and the release of transcripts and other official documents.</p>
<p>December 7-8, 2019 December 9 – 21</p>	<p>No classes or examinations take place. Final examinations in fall term courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses may be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.</p>
<p>December 21, 2019</p>	<p>All take home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examinations regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.</p>
<p>December 25 – January 1 January 17-19, 24-26, 2020</p>	<p>University closed. Fall term deferred examinations will be held.</p>