

Carleton University

Winter, 2018

**College of the Humanities
Religion Program: RELI 2710**

Maccabees to Muhammad

Winter Instructor: Dr. Andrea D. Lobel

E-mail: Andrea.Lobel@carleton.ca

Class times: Tues/Thurs 4:05-5:25 pm

Class location: 303 Paterson Hall

Office hours: Mon, 1-2:30 pm, 310A Paterson Hall

This second half of the course will span approximately 900 years of history, from the 2nd century CE to the Crusades in the 11th century CE. Together, we will survey the history of rabbinic Judaism as it emerged after the Roman destruction of the Second Temple, as well as the growth of the early Church, and the emergence of Islam. Close readings of the primary texts of these western religious traditions, and their broader sociohistorical and political contexts, will be key components of this portion of the course – from the writings of the early church fathers and rabbis of Late Antiquity, to the Qur’an. Throughout, we will continue to trace the textual interpretations of central concepts within these communities, including authority, canon, ethnicity, gender, theology, monotheism, and the roles of belief and ritual.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this half of the course, students should:

- Know the historical origins, as well as the central tenets of faith and ritual of rabbinic Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- Be able to engage with and properly situate the primary texts in their geographical, social, and historical contexts.
- Be able to think, reflect, and write critically about the themes examined in the assigned texts and discussed in class.
- Demonstrate sound research skills and proper citation styles in their final term paper.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- 1) *Texts & Traditions: A Source Reader for the Study of Second Temple and Rabbinic Judaism*, edited by Lawrence H. Schiffman. Ktav Publishing House, 1998.
- 2) *The Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha* (any edition. You can also read the Bible online at biblegateway.com, but choose the NRSV translation).
- 3) *The Qur'an* (Oxford World's Classics) by M. A. S. Abdel Haleem (Translator). Oxford University Press, 2008.
- 4) Additional readings online, on CULearn, and on ARES

EVALUATION

1. *Winter term paper (see details below) – 20%
(5% Research proposal + Bibliography; 15% final term paper)
2. April Exam – date set by Exam Services, TBA – 20%
3. Participation (attendance and engagement in class) – 10%

*Winter Term Paper

Your term paper will be based on a research question focused on a topic covered in, or directly related to, the course. You'll be expected to answer this research question by examining this topic in selections of your assigned readings and videos. In addition to the assigned sources you have chosen to analyze, your bibliography will also contain at least 5 secondary sources. The final term paper will be 8-10 pages double-spaced (1800-2250 words).

The following will comprise your final mark for this assignment:

Research Proposal with Bibliography (minimum of 5 secondary sources), due by 5:00 pm March 2 via CULearn = 5/30

Final Term Paper, due by 5:00 pm April 9 via CULearn = 15/30

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) The final term paper will not be accepted if the research proposal with bibliography has not been submitted.
- 2) Late research proposals with bibliography will be penalized by 2 marks per day.
- 3) Late final term papers will be penalized by 5 marks per day.
- 4) Plagiarism of *any* kind will be reported and prosecuted, in keeping with Carleton's Academic Integrity Policy. If you're having any difficulty with the course, please come see me rather than resorting to cheating.

TERM PAPER EVALUATION

Work will be marked based on the following factors:

Presentation: Your papers must be typed using a standard 12-point font, be double-spaced, and have 2.54 cm margins. No cover page is required. Should technology fail, calling for hard copy submission, your paper should be submitted stapled.

Style: Your work will be assessed based on spelling, grammar, and syntax. Remember to use spellcheck, but don't rely on it. A good proofreading session or two can catch many errors that spellcheck cannot.

Structure and analysis (final term-paper): Your term paper is well-organized and builds an argument.

Understanding and synthesis: You've made it clear that you've read and understood the material. Your work also displays critical thinking and evaluation of the sources.

A NOTE ON ATTENDANCE

To be successful in this course, attending class and keeping up with assigned readings are critical. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class, and will comprise part of your final Participation mark.

CLASS DATES AND ASSIGNED READINGS

Tues, Jan 9	Rabbinic Judaism: Historical context; from Temple to synagogue; rabbinic authority Schiffman, pp. 472-78.
Thurs, Jan 11	From Pharisees to Rabbis – transitions Schiffman, pp. 503-22.
Tues, Jan 16	The Tannaitic academies; oral law; Midrash and Mishnah; halakha and aggadah Schiffman, pp. 522-37.
Thurs, Jan 18	The Mishnah – a closer examination; Tosefta; Sifra; Sifre Schiffman, pp. 537-64.
Tues, Jan 23	The Decline of Hellenistic Judaism; Judaism under Byzantine Christianity Schiffman, pp. 565-95.
Thurs, Jan 25	The Two Talmuds I Schiffman, pp. 605-28. Jeffrey Rubenstein, “The Rabbinic Academy,” Pages 16-38 in <i>The Culture of the Babylonian Talmud</i> (on ARES)
Tues, Jan 30	The Two Talmuds II Schiffman, pp. 633-38; 677-82.
Thurs, Feb 1	Rabbinic Judaism – key themes (Shabbat and holidays; purity laws) Schiffman, pp. 699-718; 726-31.

- Tues, Feb 6** **Church and Empire: Church Fathers**
Sociohistorical context and overview
 Bart D. Ehrman and Andrew S. Jacobs, Eds. “Christianity and Roman Law” in *Christianity in Late Antiquity, 300-450 C.E. A Reader*, pp. 68-77. (on ARES)
- Thurs, Feb 8** **Church and Empire: Eusebius, *Church History Books 1-2***
Selected close readings and historical context, cont’d
<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf201.toc.html>
- Tues, Feb 13** **Church and Empire: Eusebius, *Church History Book 3-4***
Selected close readings and historical context, cont’d
- Thurs, Feb 15** **Church and Empire: Eusebius, *Church History Books 5-6***
Close readings and historical context, cont’d
- Tues, Feb 20 & Thurs, Feb 22** **WINTER BREAK; NO CLASS**
- Tues, Feb 27** **Church and Empire: Eusebius, *Church History Books 7-8***
Close readings and historical context, cont’d
- Thurs, March 1** **Church and Empire: Eusebius, *Church History Books 9-10***
Close readings and historical context, cont’d
- N.B. Research Proposal with Bibliography due by 5:00 pm March 2 via CULearn*
- Tues, March 6** **Islam – Origins and foundations**
Introduction and sociohistorical context
 Ancient Accounts of Arabia, 430 BCE-550 CE (Herodotus, Strabo, Dio Cassius, Ammianus Marcellinus, Procopius of Caesarea)
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/arabia1.asp>
- Thurs, March 8** **Islam – the Life of Muhammad; Qur’an; Hadith; the Five Pillars**
 Short in-class film: *Islam: Empire of Faith—The Messenger*
- Tues, March 13** **Islam – Expansion and Growth**
 Patricia Crone. *Meccan Trade and the Rise of Islam*. Princeton University Press. 1987. <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/halsall/med/crone.asp>
- Thurs, March 15** **The Caliphate**
 Short in-class film: *Islam: Empire of Faith—The Awakening*
 Qur’an (close readings) – 1 (The Opening); 2 (The Cow), 13 (Thunder)

- Tues, March 20** **Sunni and Shi'a Islam**
 Qur'an (close readings) – 3 (The House of Imran), 17 (Night Journey)
- Thurs, March 22** **Women in Classical Islam**
 Qur'an (close readings) – 4 (Women), 19 (Mary), 24 (Light)
- Tues, March 27** **Guest lecturer TBA – Muslim community**
- Thurs, March 29** **Theology**
 Qur'an (close readings) – 11 (Hud) 12 (Joseph) 14 (Abraham), 29 (The Spider)
- Tues, April 3** **Ritual**
 Qur'an (close readings) –18 (Cave), 47 (Muhammad), 22 (Pilgrimage), 61 (The Ranks), 63 (The Hypocrites)
- Thurs, April 5** **11th-12th centuries: The Crusades**
 Qur'an (close readings) – 9 (Repentance), 26 (The Poets), 33 (The Allies)
- N.B Final Term Paper, due by 5:00 pm April 9 via CULearn.*
- Tues, April 10** **Wrap-up and questions**



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](#)