

**The College of the Humanities**

**Religion Program: RELI 1716 Fall Term**

**Instructor:** Jeffrey Kotyk

**Office:** N/A

**E-mail:** Jeffrey.kotyk@carleton.ca

**Office hours:** By appointment (online).

**Lecture:** Weekly prerecorded lectures.

**Course Description**

This online (asynchronous / prerecorded lectures) course offers a survey of religions in East Asia (primarily China, Japan and Korea). These include Buddhism, Daoism, Shinto, and Christianity. Our survey will chiefly rely upon critical online resources ranging from encyclopedias to scholarly translations of primary sources. Students will do the reading assignments and listen to the weekly lecture material (pre-recorded videos). There will be alternating biweekly written responses and quizzes (all of these conducted online).

**Learning Outcomes**

By the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Write coherent English prose at a university level.
- When reading, be able to distinguish a paper's argument from its subject matter.
- Distinguish primary and secondary sources, and be able to recognize acceptable academic sources for the study of religion.
- Recognize personal situated-ness and personal bias in confronting religious phenomena.
- Understand the basic history, doctrinal variety, rituals, and social contexts of the religion(s) studied in this course.
- Show familiarity with the religions, cultures and geography of East Asia.
- critically address the definitions of religion, philosophy and science.

- Demonstrate general knowledge of the religious traditions of East Asia in the premodern period, with additional knowledge of some modern developments. Students will also become familiar with the basics of writing an academic paper.

## Course Assessment

Bi-Weekly Quizzes (7 points x 6 weeks), 42%.

- Multiple-choice quizzes to be done online. Questions will relate to weekly readings and the lectures (both the current and previous week if applicable).

Bi-Weekly Written Responses (6 points x 6 weeks), 36%.

- Due on Saturdays at 23:59 (EST). **No late submissions will be accepted.** Please answer the weekly question given in the syllabus for each week and send as an e-mail (text within the body of the e-mail) to [jeffrey.kotyk@carleton.ca](mailto:jeffrey.kotyk@carleton.ca). Each answer should be about 250 words or half a page single-spaced. Full marks will require proper spelling and grammar, as well as a thoughtful reply that incorporates ideas and material from the video lectures and readings.

Final Exam (22 points), 22%.

- Final exam will include multiple choice and true-or-false questions covering the full content of the course. Questions will be derived from readings and lectures.
- Preparation sheet will be provided ahead of the exam. This will provide key terms and concepts which if studied properly will enable the student to score well on the final exam.

## Weekly Schedule

#	Week	Reading Assignment	Quizzes and Question(s)/ Responses
	Sept. 9 – 12	<p><b>What is “religion”?</b></p> <p>Origin of the word “religion”:  <a href="https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=religion">https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=religion</a></p>	None.

		Encyclopedia Britannica: “Religion” <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/religion">https://www.britannica.com/topic/religion</a>	
1	Sept. 13 – 19	<b>Geography and cultures of East Asia.</b>  Encyclopedia Britannica: “The Regions of Asia” <a href="https://www.britannica.com/place/Asia/The-regions-of-Asia">https://www.britannica.com/place/Asia/The-regions-of-Asia</a>  Google Earth: <a href="https://www.google.com/earth/">https://www.google.com/earth/</a>	Quiz #1
2	Sept. 20 – 26	<b>Early Chinese philosophy: Confucianism.</b>  Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: “Confucius” <a href="https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/confucius/">https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/confucius/</a>	Briefly list the main virtues of Confucianism and explain how these might relate to modern life.
3	Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	<b>Early Chinese philosophy: Daoism.</b>  Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: “Religious Daoism” <a href="https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/daoism-religion/">https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/daoism-religion/</a>	Quiz #2
4	Oct. 4 – 10	<b>Early Chinese ritual practices.</b>  "Summary of the Rules of Propriety Part 1" <a href="https://cext.org/liji/qu-li-i">https://cext.org/liji/qu-li-i</a>	Do the prescribed rules and ritual procedures in <i>Classic of Rites</i> constitute something “religious” in your mind? Why or why not?
5	Oct. 11 – 17	<b>Buddhism in India</b>  Excerpts from <i>Dhammapada</i> (see handout).  “The Buddha and His Dhamma” Bhikkhu Bodhi <a href="https://www.accesstoinsight.org/lib/authors/bodhi/wheel433.html">https://www.accesstoinsight.org/lib/authors/bodhi/wheel433.html</a>	Quiz #3
6	Oct. 18 – 24	<b>Buddhism in China</b>  <i>Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch</i> , pp. 17–41. <a href="https://bdkamerica.org/download/1872">https://bdkamerica.org/download/1872</a>	What do you think of Huineng achieving the

			status of Patriarch despite being illiterate? Is this any example of a meritocracy?
7	Oct. 25 – 31	<p><b>Buddhism in Korea and Japan</b></p> <p>Encyclopedia Britannica: Buddhism in Korea and Japan  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/Buddhism/Korea-and-Japan">https://www.britannica.com/topic/Buddhism/Korea-and-Japan</a></p> <p>“The ‘Seventeen-Article Constitution’ of Shotoku Taishi”  <a href="https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Seventeen-article_constitution">https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Seventeen-article_constitution</a></p>	Quiz #4
8	Nov. 1 – 7	<p><b>Mahayana Buddhist Ethics</b></p> <p><i>Brahma Net Sutra</i>, pp. 44-73.  <a href="https://bdkamerica.org/download/1959">https://bdkamerica.org/download/1959</a></p>	What do you think of the precept against eating meat? Do you think such a rule is practical?
9	Nov. 8 – 14	<p><b>Chinese Buddhism in the modern world: Humanistic Buddhism.</b></p> <p>Foguangshan: “What is Humanistic Buddhism?”  <a href="https://www.nantien.org.au/en/buddhism/knowledge-buddhism/what-humanistic-buddhism">https://www.nantien.org.au/en/buddhism/knowledge-buddhism/what-humanistic-buddhism</a></p> <p>Sheng Yen: “A Pure Land on Earth” (pp. 1–11)  <a href="http://ddc.shengyen.org/cgi-bin/ccdd/show.py?s=09-12-5p0001">http://ddc.shengyen.org/cgi-bin/ccdd/show.py?s=09-12-5p0001</a></p>	Quiz #5
10	Nov. 15 – 21	<p><b>Christianity in Medieval China</b></p> <p>“<i>Jingjiao</i> under the Lenses of Chinese Political Theology.”  <a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/10/10/551">https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/10/10/551</a></p>	What were the main challenges facing Christianity in spreading in China?
11	Nov. 22 – 28	<p><b>Shinto and Japanese mythology.</b></p> <p>Encyclopedia Britannica: “Japanese Mythology”  <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/Japanese-mythology">https://www.britannica.com/topic/Japanese-mythology</a></p>	Quiz #6
12	Nov. 29 –	<p><b>Religion in Modern Japan</b></p> <p>“To you who has decided to become a Zen Monk.”</p>	What challenges does Japanese

Dec. 5	<a href="https://antaiji.org/en/services/english-to-you-2-kosho-uchiyama-roshi/">https://antaiji.org/en/services/english-to-you-2-kosho-uchiyama-roshi/</a> “Aum Shinrikyo: The Japanese cult behind the Tokyo Sarin attack” <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-35975069">https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-35975069</a>	Religion face in the modern period?
Dec. 6 – Dec. 11	Final exam.	

## PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally 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 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 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 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. For more details click [here](#).

**Religious obligation:** 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. For more details click [here](#).

**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).

## **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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

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



# Humanities

## University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

### Academic Dates and Deadlines

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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

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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

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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

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The University Senate defines **plagiarism** as “*presenting, whether intentionally 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 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

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### Academic Accommodation

Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals.

**Parental Leave:** The Student Parental Leave Policy is intended to recognize the need for leave at the time of a pregnancy, birth or adoption and to permit a pause in studies in order to provide full-time care in the first year of parenting a child or for health-related parental responsibilities.

**Religious obligation:** Carleton University accommodates students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event.

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

Academic accommodation of students with disabilities is available through the [Paul Menton Centre](#) by evaluations that are carried out on an individual basis, in accordance with human rights legislation and University policy, and with the support of relevant, professional/medical documentation.

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

Individuals who disclose that they have experienced sexual violence will be provided support services and will be treated with dignity and respect at all times by the University and its representatives. A person affected by sexual violence is not required to report an incident or make a complaint about sexual violence under the formal complaint process of the Sexual Violence Policy in order to obtain support and services, or in order to receive appropriate accommodation for their needs.

[Supports and services available at the University to obtain information about sexual violence and/or 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. [More information.](#)

## Grading System at Carleton University

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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. 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."

The [system of grades](#) used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion, is listed below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value.

## Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

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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

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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.

[7 Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

## Deferred Term Work

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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 (3.0) 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. 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.

[More information of deferred Term Work](#)

## Deferred Final Exams

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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](#)

## Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal

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Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Important dates can be found [here](#). 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. You can do this via the [MyCarleton Portal](#). A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load.

## Department Contact Information

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*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)