

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY/
RELIGION PROGRAM, COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES

RELI 2736/ANTH 2550
2020 FALL TERM
RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Instructor: Alyshea Cummins

Teacher Assistant:

Office Hours: by appointment

Office Location: Online via Zoom

Email: alyshea.cummins@carleton.ca

Online: Asynchronous Web-Based Learning

Course Content will be made Available on Tuesdays

Course Requires Reliable and High-Speed Internet Connection

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.

Learning Outcomes: This course aims to give students a broad understanding of the study of religion in society. Through the readings, videos, and selected case studies we investigate the role of religion in shaping society and how society, in turn, shapes religion. Students taking this course will learn disciplinary vocabulary associated with the religion(s) studied in this course and be able to recognize personal situated-ness and

personal bias in confronting religious phenomena. Through online discussions, students will present, argue, and defend their ideas using course content. Students will be able to write coherent English prose at a university level. Further, students taking this course will be able to distinguish different methods of increasing knowledge in the field of the study of religion, including historical (largely based on texts) and social scientific (largely based on field work).

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 three 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:

Discussions	35%	Each Module
Quizzes	30%	Each Module
Final Exam	35%	During the exam period
*BONUS MARKS	3%	*Due Friday Dec 4

Discussions (35%)

- Students will be divided into discussion groups on cuLearn
- Each Module will be followed by a class Discussion
- There will be 11 Discussions total (relative to the 11 Modules) and the best 10 will count towards your final Discussions grade
- Students choose whether they want to Post or Reply in the Discussion for that week
- Student posts/replies are graded according to how well students apply the relevant assigned readings & videos, both when answering the discussion questions and when responding to fellow course participants’ posts (See Discussion Guidelines on cuLearn)

Weekly Quizzes (30%):

- Weekly quizzes gauge your attentiveness and help prepare you for tests
- There will be a total of 11 Quizzes and the best 10 will count towards the final grade
- Found in each Learning Module and Completed on cuLearn

Both *discussions* and *quizzes* are available until 23:59 each following Sunday (see Schedule on page 5 of Syllabus; Please note that there is an exception for Module #6)

NOTE: There are no makeups for quizzes; see *bonus marks* for extra-credit opportunities.

Final Exam (35%)

- The final exam will be online and held during the examination period
- The format will be given closer to the date

Bonus Marks (+3%):

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

Extra-Credit Case Study (ECCS): Students who would like to earn bonus marks are asked to create a 500-1000 word Case Study.

- Case Studies must reflect the themes and subjects covered in the course (see schedule on pages 5-7) (for more information, see Instructions on cuLearn)

NOTE: Please email the professor if you are doing an ECCS to replace a quiz grade. All ECCS are **DUE Friday December 4, 2020**

Required Readings

Textbook

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

Note: The Textbook is available online through the Library or for purchase at the University Bookstore

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.

Additional Readings

Additional readings will be posted on cuLearn and may include PDFs, links to online sources, and Multi-Media Readings. See the respective module for full list of required readings.

FAQs

1. ***Do I have to attend the lectures?*** There are no live lectures. Lecture videos, notes, and Multi-Media Readings will be posted weekly on cuLearn.
2. ***Do I need the textbook?*** Yes. There is an online version available through the Carleton Library. The textbook can also be ordered online through the University Bookstore (they price match).
3. ***Are there any other activities to complete weekly?*** Yes. Each module requires you to complete a quiz and to contribute to the discussion. Please see cuLearn for a complete list of all required readings, videos, and activities.
4. ***Is there a Final Exam?*** Yes. There will be an online final exam during the exam period. Format and details 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 “Extra-Credit Case Study.”
6. ***What is the best way to reach you?*** By email or the “Ask the Instructor Q&A” online forum

SCHEDULE of CLASSES, READINGS, and ACTIVITIES

WEEK 1 Available: September 9	
<i>Welcome!</i> Review of the Course Syllabus and Instruments of Evaluation Syllabus Quiz: Must be completed to access course modules Online Student Forum: Introduce yourself in the Student Forum on cuLearn	
WEEK 2 Available: September 15	
Module 1	<i>Studying Religion</i> Review of the Course Syllabus and Instruments of Evaluation Stein & Stein chapter 1 – “The Anthropological Study of Religion” QUIZ #1 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Sunday 09/20 DISCUSSION #1 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Sunday 09/20
WEEK 3 Available: September 22	
Module 2	<i>Importance of Myths</i> Stein & Stein chapter 2 – “Mythology” <i>Video: “The Power of Myth” with Joseph Campbell</i> QUIZ #2 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Sunday 09/27 DISCUSSION #2 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Sunday 09/27

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WEEK 4

Available: September 29

Module 3

Religious Symbols

Stein & Stein chapter 3 – “Religious Symbols”

QUIZ #3 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Sunday 10/04

DISCUSSION #3 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Sunday 10/04

WEEK 5

Available: October 6

Module 4

Religious Rituals

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

QUIZ #4 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Sunday 10/11

DISCUSSION #4 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Sunday 10/11

WEEK 6

Available: October 13

Module 5

Religious Experience

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

QUIZ #5 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Sunday 10/18

DISCUSSION #5 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Sunday 10/18

WEEK 7

Available: October 20

Module 6

Religious Authorities

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

Video: Huichol shamanism and pilgrimage

QUIZ #6 – Open on cuLearn until 23:59, Friday 10/23

DISCUSSION #6 – Posts/Replies are due 23:59, Friday 10/23

WEEK 8

READING WEEK: OCTOBER 26-30

WEEK 9

Available: November 3

Module 7

Magic and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 7 – “Magic and Divination”

QUIZ #7 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/08**

DISCUSSION #7 – Posts/Replies are due **23:59, Sunday 11/08**

WEEK 10

Available: November 10

Module 8

Death and the Afterlife

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

QUIZ #8 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/15**

DISCUSSION #8 – Posts/Replies are due **23:59, Sunday 11/15**

WEEK 11

Available: November 17

Module 9

God(s) and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 9 – “Gods and Spirits”

QUIZ #9 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/22**

DISCUSSION #9 – Posts/Replies are due **23:59, Sunday 11/22**

WEEK 12

Available: November 24

Module 10

Witchcraft and Society

Stein & Stein chapter 10 – “Witchcraft”

Video: The Burning Times

QUIZ #10 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 11/29**

DISCUSSION #10 – Posts/Replies are due **23:59, Sunday 11/29**

WEEK 13

Available: December 1

Module 11

A Changing Landscape

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

Stein & Stein chapter 12 – “Religion, Conflict, and Peace”

QUIZ #11 – Open on cuLearn until **23:59, Sunday 12/06**

DISCUSSION #11 – Posts/Replies are due **23:59, Sunday 12/06**

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

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 December examinations is **November 13, 2020**.

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 is known to exist.

<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/>
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Important Dates and Deadlines for Fall 2020:

- September 2, 2020** Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in fall and fall/winter term courses.
- September 7, 2020** Statutory holiday. University closed.
- September 8, 2020** Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate).
Orientation for Teaching Assistants.
Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students and other academic preparation activities will be held.
- September 9, 2020** Fall term begins.
Fall and fall/winter classes begin.
- September 18-20, 2020** Full and late summer deferred final examinations held.
- September 23, 2020** Last day of registration for fall term and fall/winter courses.
Last day to change courses or sections (including auditing) for fall term and fall/winter courses.
Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2020 and must register for the fall 2021 term.
- September 30, 2020** Last day to withdraw from fall term and fall/winter courses with a full [fee adjustment](#) (financial withdrawal). Withdrawals after this date will create no financial change to fall term fees and will result in a permanent notation of WDN appearing on your official transcript.
- October 9, 2020** December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.
- October 12, 2020** Statutory holiday. University closed.
- October 26-30, 2020** Fall break. Classes are suspended.
- November 13, 2020** 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.
- November 27, 2020** 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).
- December 11, 2020** 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 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.

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- December 12 – 23, 2020** 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.
- December 23, 2020** 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.
- December 25, 2020-
January 1, 2021** University closed.



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Academic Dates and Deadlines

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.

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

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

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 of 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

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

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

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

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

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](#)

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

Bachelor of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall
Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Graduate) 2A39 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca