

04/06/16

SUMMER 2016 RELIGION COURSES

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

IFS3069

Just Torture

Dr. Twiss

In this e-series course, students will learn to think critically about a range of topics that include: history of torture; torture, pain, and ‘unmaking’ the world; social psychological accounts of conditions making torture possible; genealogy of modern torture; democracy and recent proposals to legalize torture; comparative moral and religious perspectives on torture and its critique; and prospects for the abolition of torture. *Meets LS- e-series/HLS-E and Ethics and social responsibility (ETH/SR).*

REL1300

Introduction to World Religions

Staff

This course is an introduction to the academic study of the major religions of the world. The course will cover the religious traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In the process of comparing the religions of the world, it will be the responsibility of each student to think critically about the historical evolution, systems of belief, ritual practices, institutional developments and cultural expressions of each religious tradition. A range of reading materials and writing assignments have been chosen to provide a framework within which to engage a variety of religious issues and to understand the significance and relevance of religion in world history. *Meets LS Humanities and Writing requirements as well as Multicultural X. This course is also offered online.*

REL2121

Religion in the United States

Staff

This course is designed to introduce you to the major themes, figures, and directions of religion in American history, with an eye toward ways that social and cultural contexts have shaped the religious experience of Americans in different places and times. Since it is impossible to cover all religious traditions in one semester, this course will consist of both a general survey of religion in the U.S. and a series of case studies designed to provide a closer look into some of the religious groups and ideas that have shaped this country. *Meets LS History and Writing requirements as well as Multicultural Y.*

REL2210

Introduction to the Old Testament

Staff

The word “Bible” is derived from the Greek word “biblia” which means “books”. While revered as a single book, the Bible is a collection of many texts that were composed by different authors at different times for different reasons. This course is an introduction to the critical study of this assorted literature and the world in which it was produced. We will examine individual texts of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament within their historical contexts while taking into consideration other methodological approaches such as literary criticism and theology. *Meets LS Humanities and Writing requirements as well as Multicultural Y.*

REL3112

Religion and Fantasy

Staff

This course offers an overview of theological and anti-theological elements in twentieth and

twenty-first century fantasy literature from authors Lewis, Tolkien, Rowling, and Pullman. *Meets LS Humanities and literature requirements as well as the writing requirement.*

REL3340 The Buddhist Tradition

Dr. Buhrman

This course surveys the Buddhist tradition from its beginnings through the modern period. Some attention to its contemporary forms. *Meets LS-CUL and DIV-XCC requirements.*

REL3145 Gender and Religion

Staff

This course considers the impact of gender on religion. Includes cross-cultural studies, theoretical works, and gender issues within religious traditions. *Meets LS Cultural Practice (LS-CUL) and Diversity in cross cultural studies (DIV-XCC).*

REL4491 SEM: Religious Thought; Catholic Social Thought

Dr. Kalbian

This seminar guides students through a careful study of the tradition of modern Catholic social thought with particular attention to the complex and often controversial ways that justice and rights have been construed in various magisterial and theological documents since the late 19th century. To gain a full understanding of this tradition we will explore themes such as natural law, the role of scripture, the common good, and the dignity of the human person. A central focus of our inquiry will concern the way the tradition reconciles individual rights with the promotion of the common good. Students are expected to engage in close, careful readings of the official documents that make up the corpus of modern Catholic social teaching and to write thoughtful papers about how the traditions develops and evolves over time.

REL4905 Dir Indiv Study

REL4932 Religion Honors Work

GRADUATE COURSES

RLG5497 SEM: Religious Thought; Catholic Social Thought

Dr. Kalbian

This seminar guides students through a careful study of the tradition of modern Catholic social thought with particular attention to the complex and often controversial ways that justice and rights have been construed in various magisterial and theological documents since the late 19th century. To gain a full understanding of this tradition we will explore themes such as natural law, the role of scriptures, the common good, and the dignity of the human person. A central focus of our inquiry will concern the way the tradition reconciles individual rights with the promotion of the common good. Students are expected to engage in close, careful readings of the official documents that make up the corpus of modern Catholic social teaching and to write thoughtful papers about how the traditions develops and evolves over time.

RLG5937 SPEC TOPICS: Religion Professional Development

Dr. Kalbian

RLG6980 DISSERTATION

Dr. Kavka