# **FALL 2011 RELIGION COURSES**

HBR1102/REL5204

**Beginning Hebrew I** 

**Dr.** Levenson

Introduction to the basic grammar, syntax, and phonology of modern and classical Hebrew. Meets the foreign language requirement for the BA degree. No language laboratory required.

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# 01809/04103) MWF 8:45am-9:55am DOD 0118

## HBR2222

## **Intermediate Hebrew**

Dr. Levenson

A close reading of selected passages from the book of Exodus. Most of the passages will be prose narratives from chapters 1-12, but there will also be readings from poetry (Exod 15: "The Song at the Sea") and legal material associated with the Sinai Covenant (Exod. 19-24: Ten Commandments and Covenant Code). The primary emphasis will be on vocabulary, grammar, and style, but some attention will be given to issues of textual and source criticism. There will also be exercises for each assignment that will provide a review and solidify the grammar and vocabulary from Biblical Hebrew I and II.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 01812) MWF 10:10am-11:00am DOD 0207

## **REL1001**

## **Cinematic Courage**

Staff

This course focuses on the virtue of courage, making use of films, historical and literary accounts, and religious and philosophical analyses of the concept. We ask questions like "What is the nature of courage?", "How is it expressed?", and "How is courage related to other virtues—for example, to justice, or to hope?" Film Screenings are on Mondays from 6:45pm-9:30pm in DHA 103.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 07703)	M W F	11:15am-12:05pm	<b>BEL 0204</b>
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07704)	T R	12:30pm-1:45pm	SAN 0209

## **REL1300**

## **Introduction to World Religions**

**Dr.** Canter

"Introduction to World Religions" surveys the major religious traditions of the world, with attention to their origins, principle beliefs and practices. The course will have achieved its purpose if you complete the semester with a working knowledge of the world"s main religions and an appreciation for the pluralistic spiritual views of humanity.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04067)	M W F	9:05am-9:55am	WMS 0318	
Sec. 2 (Ref# 06337)	T R	2:00pm-3:15pm	HCB 0309	*Dr. Canter
Sec. 3 (Ref# 06338)	M W F	12:20pm-1:10pm	BEL 0180	
Sec. 4 (Ref# 06339)	$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{W}$	3:35pm-4:50pm	<b>DIF 0204</b>	
Sec. 5 (Ref# 06340)	T R	5:15pm-6:30pm	<b>DIF 0204</b>	
Sec. 6 (Ref# 06341)	M W F	10:10am-11:00am	WMS 0318	
Sec. 7 (Ref# 06342)	T R	8:00am-9:15am	HCB 0312	
Sec. 8 (Ref# 06343)	T R	12:30pm-1:45pm	<b>BEL 0003</b>	
Sec. 9 (Ref# 06344)	$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{W}$	5:15pm-6:30pm	<b>DIF 0204</b>	
Sec. 10 (Ref# 06345)	M W F	11:15am-12:05pm	HCB 0309	
Sec. 11 (Ref# 06346)	M W F	1:25pm-2:15pm	HCB 0310	
Sec. 12 (Ref# 06364)	T R	11:00am-12:15pm	SAN 0407	
Sec. 13 (Ref# 07641)	T R	9:30am-10:45am	CON 0228	*Dr. Canter
Sec. 16 (Ref# 08326)	T R	3:35pm-4:50pm	HCB 0312	

## **REL2121**

## **Religion in the U.S.**

## **Dr. Koehlinger**

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the historical study of religion in the United States, with an eye toward ways that social and cultural contexts have shaped the religious experience of Americans in different places and times. The course is structured around 4 themes, each of which is comprised of a pairing of common analytical concepts used in the study of religion, (i.e the first theme is "pluralism and syncretism"). Readings, lectures, and class discussions will explore the relationship between the 2 concepts in specific places and times in U.S. history. Over the course of the semester we will survey religious developments, movements, groups, and individuals, stopping to linger over representative "soundings" within each historical period. The primary goal of the course is for you to become familiar with the history of American religion both by learning about central events and trends. **Meets Liberal Studies Area IV and Gordon Rule requirements**.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04068)	MWF	10:10am-11:00am	BEL 0116
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07669)	T R	11:00am-12:15pm	WJB 2009
Sec. 3 (Ref# 07670)	M W F	1:25pm-2:15pm	HCB 0312
Sec. 4 (Ref# 07675)	T R	2:00pm-3:15pm	DHA 0103 *Dr. Koehlinger

<b>REL2210</b>	Introduction to the Old Testan	nent Dr. Goff	ff
The word "Bible" is derived fi	om the Greek word "biblia" wh	ich means "books." While revered	ed
as a single book, the Bible is a	collection of many texts that we	ere composed by different authors	5
at different times for different	reasons. This course is an introd	duction to the critical study of this	S
assorted literature and the wor	ld in which it was produced. W	e will examine individual texts of	2
the Hebrew Bible/Old Testam	ent within their historical contex	ts while taking into consideration	i i
other methodological approach	nes such as literary criticism and	theology.	

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04069)	T R	11:00am-12:15pm	LSB 0002	
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07615)	T R	3:35pm-4:50pm	<b>DIF 0204</b>	
Sec. 3 (Ref# 07616)	M W F	12:20pm-1:10pm	<b>DIF 0201</b>	*Dr. Goff

**REL2240 Introduction to the New Testament Dr. Kelley** An introduction to the literature of the New Testament and to the academic approaches to it. The distinctive concerns and literary features of individual texts will be studied in the contexts of the historical development of the early Christian church, ancient Judaism, and the wider Graeco-Roman world. Emphasis throughout will fall on the variety of interpretations of the Christian message as Christians encountered new social circumstances and theological challenges.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04070)	M W F	11:15am-12:05pm	WMS 0318	
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07638)	T R	9:30am-10:45am	<b>BEL 0005</b>	
Sec. 3 (Ref# 07639)	T R	2:00pm-3:15pm	SAN 0407	*Dr. Kelley

## **REL2315**

## **Religions of South Asia**

Staff Overview of religions in the South Asian cultural region, emphasizing Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Islam. The history and cultural contexts of these traditions will be explored with particular attention to sacred stories, holy people, religious leadership, and gender issues. This course also serves as an introduction to the academic study of religion. No previous background is required. Meets Liberal Studies Humanities and Multicultural (x) requirements. Students will gain familiarity with the basic concepts of the religious traditions of South Asia, will develop interpretive skills in the academic study of religion, and will have the opportunity to develop research and writing skills by exploring a topic of special interest.

TR 9:30am-10:45am WJB G0039 Sec. 1 (Ref# 04071)

REL2350	<b>Religions of East Asia</b>	Dr. Yu
This course combines thematic and	d historical approaches to religions of East As	sia, focusing
primarily on China and Japan. Spe	ecifically, it examines interactions among Con	nfucianism,
Daoism, Buddhism, Shinto, and po	opular new religious movements. Students wi	ll approach the
histories of East Asian religions as	s processes of change, border-crossing, accult	uration, and
mutual-alteration. Readings have b	been drawn from secondary scholarship as we	ell as a variety of
primary sources in translation, incl	luding myths, canonical scriptures, polemical	tracts,
hagiography, and narrative tales. A	Assigned readings will be augmented by occas	sional in-class
films.		
Daoism, Buddhism, Shinto, and po histories of East Asian religions as mutual-alteration. Readings have b primary sources in translation, incl hagiography, and narrative tales. A	opular new religious movements. Students wi s processes of change, border-crossing, accult been drawn from secondary scholarship as we luding myths, canonical scriptures, polemical	ll approach the uration, and ell as a variety of tracts,

Sec. 1 (Ref# 07679) M W 2:00pm-3:15pm DIF 0204

## **REL3054**

## **Critics of Religion**

## Staff

This course is an introduction to the major thinkers and texts in the critique of religion as it developed in the 19th and 20th centuries in the west. Beginning with Schleiermacher, the course moves on to consider the so-called "masters of suspicion" — Feuerbach, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud. By means of a close examination of central texts, students explore the meaning of a critique of religion, the structure of religious consciousness, the place of religion with respect to other forms of culture, the problem of religion and alienation, and the possibility of a critical faith.

Sec. 2 (Ref# 07645) TR 2:00pm-3:15pm HCB 0312

**REL3112Religion and FantasyDr. Cronin**This course offers an overview of theological and anti-theological elements in twentieth and<br/>twenty-first century fantasy literature from authors Lewis, Tolkien, Rowling, and Pullman.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04073) MW 9:30am-10:45am MOR M0104

## **REL3128** Catholic Experience in the U.S. Staff This course provides a general introduction the historical experiences of American Catholics from the colonial period through the present. This course focuses on popular Catholicism, trying

from the colonial period through the present. This course focuses on popular Catholicism, trying to uncover the diverse experiences of American Catholics through asking what it was like to be Catholic in different places and times throughout United States history. We will use a wide variety of sources to answer this question, including traditional historical monographs, novels, memoir, film, papal documents, correspondence, essays, speeches, poetry, political writing, sermons, advertisements, liturgy, and artwork. Over the course of the term you will learn about the major developments, persons, institutions, and ideas that shaped the experience of Catholics in different moments of U.S. history. You also will learn how to how to "hear" and understand the voices of people from the past embedded in historical artifacts.

Sec. 2 (Ref#07672) T R 9:30am-10:45am BEL 0208

**REL3128** American Protestant Thought in Historical Context Dr. Porterfield This course will examine works by five influential American protestant thinkers, each of whom represents a different time in American protestant history. In class discussions and writing assignments, the course will focus on three questions: where did their ideas come from? what events conditioned their reformulation of ideas? how did their writings influence the course of events?

Sec. 3 (Ref# 07673) T R 11:00am-12:15pm HCB 0312

## **REL3128**

## **Religion and Sports**

Dr. Koehlinger

Many sports fans explain their love of sport using religious language. Athletes are dedicated to physical training with religious intensity. The euphoria of watching your team hit tie-breaking a jumpshot as the buzzer sounds rivals the exuberant joy of a religious revival. People describe Saturday afternoons the ballpark as a visit to "the church of baseball." And even our beloved Doak Campbell is as much a cathedral as it is a stadium for some fans—complete with a stained glass window of the patron saint of FSU football. How should we understand the ways religion and sport intersect in the U.S.? Is sport a kind of religion? Is sport a rival to religion, or does sport make people more attached to religion? How have religious groups used sport to spread their message? This course is an introduction to religion and sport that explores the issue of whether sport is a kind of religion. Lectures will explore the nature of sport, the nature of religion, the historical development of specific sports in the U.S., and the history of religion in America, supplemented by films and game clips. Short assigned readings will focus on specific moments when American sports were intertwined with American religion.

Sec. 4 (Ref# 07674) T R 12:30pm-1:45pm DHA 0103

## **Gender and Religion** This course examines the impact of gender on religious beliefs and practices and the impact of religious beliefs and practices on gender, cross-culturally. We will be looking at the intersections of religion and culture, in general. In doing so, we will look at a history of feminist thought in religious studies and the current gender issues that have arisen through women's examinations of religious thought and the study of religion. We will use a variety of texts, some film, class discussion, and writing to explore these topics a fully as possible.

Sec. 2 (Ref# 07640) TR 12:30pm-1:45pm **KRB 0105** 

## **REL3170**

**Religious Ethics** 

This introduction to the study of religious ethics meets the Gordon Rule requirement, the liberal studies area IV requirement and the multicultural x requirement. Students will examine the moral problems raised by issues such as deception, capital punishment, war, the environment, and human sexuality in the context of religious views about love, duty, good, and evil. They will undertake this examination through close readings of texts describing views of different religious traditions including Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, and Islam. They will also develop and fine-tune their writing skills by completing two 1500 word papers.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04076)	$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{W}$	3:35pm-4:50pm	WMS 0318	
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07642)	M W F	12:20pm-1:10pm	WMS 0318	
Sec. 3 (Ref# 07643)	T R	12:30pm-1:45pm	LSB 0002	
Sec. 4 (Ref# 07644)	M W F	9:05am-9:55am	SAN 0209	
Sec. 5 (Ref# 07707)	M W F	10:10am-11:00am	DHA 0103	*Dr. Kalbian

## **REL3180**

## **Human Rights**

This course examines the history and dynamics (including the role of religion) of crimes against humanity as an introduction to the international human rights movement. It will do this by focusing on two historical cases-the Belgian Congo in the early 20th century and the Holocaust at mid-20th century—both of which spawned a considerable literature of testimony, analysis, resistance, and reform both at the time and subsequently. Course materials will include works of literature, drama, history, and philosophy as well as essays, public addresses, letters, and other creative works by prominent figures in the humanities, arts, social sciences, and the learned professions (e.g., law). A major thesis of the course-to be cooperatively tested by us all-is that by focusing on such works we not only will become familiar with human rights thinking and practice but also will be encouraged to acquire a critical and imaginative human rights sensibility important for being responsible citizens in the contemporary world.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04077)	Т	2:00pm-3:15pm	BEL 0048 (Honors section)
	R	2:00pm-4:00pm	BEL 0030 (Honors section)
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07708)	Т	2:00pm-3:15pm	BEL 0048
	R	2:00pm-3:15pm	BEL 0048

## **REL3145**

Dr. Reid

Dr. Kalbian

**Dr.** Twiss

# **REL3293Bible and the PeopleDr. Dupuigrenet**This course presents a history of the Bible in Christianity from Late Antiquity to the present day:<br/>the Bible in the middle ages (4th-15th c.); the Bible in early modern Europe (15th-18th c.), the<br/>Bible in industrial societies (19th-21th c.) Because the Scripture *is* history, starting with the<br/>creation of the universe and the story of the first humans, Christians of all times have read in it<br/>their own story – be it that of a nation, a group, or an individual – and used it to understand,<br/>transform or embellish the world they lived in. Special emphasis will be put on the relationship<br/>between the Christian people and Judaism, both ancient and contemporary, as well as on the<br/>biblical component of the cultures of our past – in *The Bible and the People* Giotto and<br/>Michelangelo, Haendel and Bach, Dante and Shakespeare, will thus be witnesses as important as<br/>saint Thomas or Martin Luther. Honors students only.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04079) T R 11:00am-12:15pm DOD 0207

# REL3293Demons, Antichrist, and SatanDr. GoffIn this course we will examine conceptions of evil in Judaism and Christianity, as manifested in<br/>traditions regarding demons, the Antichrist and Satan. Major biblical and non-biblical texts that<br/>describe these figures will be examined in their historical contexts. Traditions regarding Satan<br/>and other evil personages will be traced historically so that students will have a sense of how our<br/>understanding of these figures changed over time. The focus of the class will be on the<br/>development of evil entities in the ancient world, but there will also be consideration of demons<br/>and related figures in later stages of Judaism and Christianity, including the contemporary world.Prerequisite: REL 2210 or REL 2240.

Sec. 2 (Ref# 07617) M W 2:00pm-3:15pm WMS 0318

**REL3335 Dr. Erndl** Hindu Texts and Contexts: Ramayana This course is an introduction to the Hindu tradition through the Ramayana, one of its most popular and celebrated sacred texts. The Ramayana, also known as the Rama-katha (story of Rama), narrates the exile of Prince Rama, who is accompanied into the forest by his wife Sita and brother Laksmana. After Sita's abduction by the demon Ravana, Rama, aided by his monkey-ally Hanuman, must go to battle to rescue her. But this skeletal summary cannot begin to do justice to the many tellings of Rama-katha that have been composed, recited, sung, written, performed, danced, portrayed in art, and have influenced political events throughout India, Asia, and beyond. In this course, we focus on the most well known literary version, composed in the Sanskrit language by the ancient poet Valmiki, and on the now classic 1980's televised Hindi language serial version directed by Ramanand Sagar, though we will also consider other versions. Focus on the Ramayana will lead to a consideration of broader religious, social, philosophical, aesthetic, and political themes in the Hindu tradition. The Ramayana has seven "books" (kandas), each of which will serve as a window to selected Hindu concepts and issues. No background in either the Ramayana or in Hinduism is presumed.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 07680) T R 11:00am-12:15pm HCB 0208

## **REL3340**

## The Buddhist Tradition

**Dr.** Cuevas

A historical and thematic survey of the Buddhist tradition in Asia from its beginnings through the modern period. Topics covered will include origins and history, doctrine, ethical beliefs, meditation, ritual, and monastic and popular traditions. Some attention will also be given to contemporary forms of Buddhism outside of Asia, in Europe and America.

 Sec. 1 (Ref# 04080)
 T R
 9:30am-10:45am
 DIF 0228

 Sec. 2 (Ref# 07694)
 T R
 12:30pm-1:45pm
 DOD 0118 (Honors section) \*Dr. Cuevas

## **REL3363**

## **The Islamic Tradition**

## Dr. Gaiser

REL 3363 Islamic Traditions is a historical and topical survey of Islam as a religion and civilization that focuses on the formative and classical periods of Islamic history. The course is primarily concerned with: the life and career of Muhammad the Prophet of Islam, the scriptural sources of Islam (i.e. the Qur'an and the *Sunna*), the development of the Muslim community and its principle institutions (schools of thought, law, theology, cultural life and mystical traditions). The course will acquaint you with significant aspects of Islam as a religion, and to help you think through some of the basic questions of human religious experience in light of the responses given to those questions by the great sages and saints of the Islamic tradition.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04082) MWF 11:15am-12:05pm DHA 0103

## **REL3505**

### **The Christian Tradition**

## Staff

This course is an introduction to Christianity. We will examine the historical narrative of the tradition from its beginnings in the first century through twentieth-century developments. We will also focus on the doctrinal side of the tradition by reading primary texts of key Christian thinkers.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04086)	$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{W}$	5:15pm-6:30pm	WMS 0318
Sec. 2 (Ref# 07717)	T R	12:30pm-1:45pm	HCB 0312

## **REL3607**

## The Jewish Tradition

Dr. Kavka

This course is a survey of the Jewish tradition and its development from the Biblical period to the present. We will critically read important texts representing the fundamental periods/themes of the tradition:

- Biblical texts
- Talmud and Midrash, the texts of rabbinic Judaism
- philosophy and Kabbalah (Jewish mysticism) from the medieval era
- philosophy and Hasidic texts from the early modern era
- Zionism
- the rise of Reform, Conservative, and Modern Orthodox Judaism
- modern Jewish feminism

In addition, we will spend some time on Jewish "lived religion": the structure of the liturgical year, the primary Jewish festival holidays, and contemporary worship services. Finally, this course contains a writing component in accordance with the university's "Gordon Rule" (section 1007.25, Florida Statutes; see p. 64 of the *General Bulletin* for more details).

Requirements: midterm and final exams, two papers of 1500 words

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04087) M W F 12:20pm-1:10pm DIF 0204

**REL3936Medieval ChristianityDr. Dupuigrenet**The medieval Christian millennium, from the time of the first Christian emperors and the Churchfathers to the breaking of Christianity brought by the Reformation, is often for Americans asource of fascination and disbelief. Countless novels, films, or videogames, from Mark Twain'sA Connectitut Yankee in King Arthur's Court to Ridley Scott's Robin Hood have acquaintedthem with a world of monks and knights, magicians and saints, of which they actually have verylittle knowledge – apart from the existence of papacy and the Inquisition.

In this new course, which does not require any prior knowledge of the period, I will introduce students to the history of ten centuries during which European society became Christian, a long, travailed process of which I will highlight the contradictions and difficulties, very far from the majestic "all Christian world" that we spontaneously imagine medieval Europe to have been. Beliefs and religious practices will be examined as well as the institutions of Christian life and the relations of Church and State, illustrated by the presentation of exemplary figures such as the English born saint Boniface, who converted the pagan Saxons in the VIIIth century, saint Louis, the model of Christian sovereigns, or Dante Alighieri, the poet of medieval Christian theology.

During Spring 2012 it will be followed by "The Reformation and Christianity in early modern Europe, 1500-1800" that will use the same textbook.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04088) T R 9:30am-10:45am HCB 0312

**REL3936 Christianity and Politics in Europe and the Atlantic World Dr. Irving** This course introduces students to the role of religion in Western political thought, focusing on the history of Europe and the Atlantic World. Beginning with the Protestant Reformation and concluding with the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, we explore the work of Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Locke, early American Puritans, Thomas Jefferson, William Wilberforce, the Victorian Christian Socialists, Walter Rauschenbusch, the Barmen Declaration of the anti-Nazi Confessing Church, and Reinhold Niebuhr. Chief among the course's themes is the emergence of the modern nationstate and the set of questions this posed. What is the proper relationship between Christianity and secular authority? What are the rights and duties of individual citizens toward the state? Should individuals be permitted religious freedom? Throughout the course students will place these thinkers in their historical contexts and the debates in which they were participating. Many of the issues we discuss resonate in the world today, and students will be encouraged to think broadly about the contemporary implications of the relationship between religion, politics and civil society. No previous knowledge of European history or philosophy is assumed.

Sec. 2 (Ref# 07618) T R 12:30pm-1:45pm HCB 0217

**REL3936** Jerusalem: Conflict and Controversy from Antiquity to the Present **Dr.** Levenson This course will focus on conflicts and controversies surrounding the city of Jerusalem and how these have shaped Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It will begin with an analysis of the biblical accounts of David's capture of the city and then turn to the historical and prophetic literature describing and responding to the Assyrian siege of 701BCE and the Babylonian conquest of 597-586. After a short unit discussing the Maccabean Revolt, there will be an extensive section on the siege and fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple during the Jewish war of 66-73. This will entail a close reading of Josephus' narrative in the Jewish War, as well as discussion of various Jewish and Christian theological responses to the dramatic events. The next units will be devoted to the creation of Jerusalem as a Christian city in the fourth century, the Persian and Byzantine conflicts at the beginning of the seventh century, and the Muslim conquest and building projects of the mid and late seventh century. Muslim-Christian conflict over the city will continue to be explored in a unit on the Crusader period. Finally, Jerusalem's role in the Arab-Zionist and Israeli-Palestinian conflict will be examined in detail, with special focus on the events of 1917, 1929, 1948, and 1967, as well as discussion of the issue of Jerusalem in Arab-Israeli and Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations. Throughout the course, the emphasis will be on a close reading and careful comparison of primary texts and secondary literature representing a variety of perspectives on the events studied.

Sec. 3 (Ref# 07619) T R 2:00pm-3:15pm DIF 0204

## **REL4044** What is Religion? Dr. Koehlinger Most people explain religion as something otherworldly or transcendent, something that happens to the soul, through belief, as a way to approach heavenly paradise. But this view of religion (which often dominates the academic study of religion) ignores the fact that people live bodies in a concrete, material world. The seminar explores the question "what is religion?" by thinking about the ways religion is experienced in the body and expressed through it. What do spirit possession, ecstatic dancing, speaking in tongues, and painful pilgrimage rituals teach us about what religion is and what it does? We will begin by briefly surveying the ideas of various thinkers about the origins, essence and function of religion as a category of human experience, but the heart of the course will focus on books and films that look at examples of religion and its intimate relationship with the human body.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04089) W 2:00pm-4:45pm DOD 0118

**REL4190/5195 Seminar: Words and Power in African Religions Dr. Hellweg** This course examines words as sources of power and verbal art as a kind of power in African cosmologies. It challenges the taken-for-granted distinctions between oral and written communication by studying a range of verbal creativity in West African religions. Praise-singers perform songs and heroic epics to evoke action from others. Sorcerers recite incantations to disengage unseen forces, and diviners interpret markings in the sand or patterns in the way that palm nuts or cowries shells fall to reveal hidden realities, reading natural materials as texts and interpreting them as words. Words therefore transcend writing in ways that reveal them as a material force, as part of the cosmos, and therefore as capable of both reflecting and transforming it. West Africa also has a thousand-year history of writing in Arabic, and medieval chronicles told the stories of Muslim rulers as a means of legitimizing Islam in the region. More recently, since colonialism, colonial languages such as French, have codified laws that politicians manipulate to advance the fortunes of certain religious groups over others. Studying words as sources of cosmic power expands the study of religion beyond the purview of ritual alone to include insights into the current political and social realities in which Africans live today.

Sec. 1/2 (Ref# 04090/07702) MW 12:30pm-1:45pm DOD 0118

## **REL4190/5195**Man and Nature in Western ThoughtDr. Irving

The idea of a global environmental crisis is one of the most salient and debated issues in public discourse. To what extent are Western attitudes toward nature responsible for this situation? The idea that humanity should have dominion over the natural world derives from the book of Genesis, and is central to Judeo-Christian thought. In addition, the emergence of modern science was founded upon the idea that nature be rendered useful to mankind; it was not sacred. This course is an intellectual history of man's relationship to nature, stretching historically from the Greeks, through the Reformation, Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, Romanticism, and concluding with late 20<sup>th</sup> century reflections upon environmentalism. Our readings encompass philosophy, theology, history, the philosophy of science, and poetry.

Sec. 2/3 (Ref# 07711/07712) M 2:00pm-4:45pm DIF 0310

REL4203/5204Classical Hebrew Texts: ExodusDr. LevensonStudents with three semesters of Hebrew will do the assignments for Intermediate Hebrew and,<br/>in addition, read selections in English from Propp's Anchor Bible Commentary and in Hebrew<br/>from the commentary of Rashi and other medieval Jewish commentators.Dr. Levenson

Sec. 1/2 (Ref# 11573/07718) MWF 10:10am-11:00am DOD 0207

## REL4304/5305 Magic & The Supernatural in Asia

Dr. Cuevas

This seminar offers a comparative study of the forms and functions of magic, supernatural beliefs, and associated rituals in various societies across Asia, including especially India, Tibet, China, and Japan. Emphasis will be on understanding such beliefs and practices within specific Asian social and historical contexts and broad comparisons with Western conceptions to derive critical insights into the significance of religious beliefs and practices in human life. In addition, sustained focus will be on the wide variety of academic approaches to magic as a cross-cultural category and the problematic distinction between the categories "magic" and "religion." Key questions addressed throughout the course include the following: What is magic? What does magic mean? What does magic do? Is magic distinct from religion? Is magic natural or supernatural? Why do people believe in magic? What is the role of magic in society? The course will run on a seminar format with active and in-depth discussion of readings and intensive individual writing assignments. **Permission of instructor required.** 

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# \*\*\*\*\*/04104) R 3:00pm-5:45pm BEL 0045

# REL4304/5305Theology, Philosophy, & LawDr. GaiserREL 4304/5305, Islamic Theology, Philosophy and Law, examines the development of<br/>theological, philosophical and legal discourses among Muslims. The course seeks to discover<br/>common questions that undergird these three scholastic disciplines, and will focus on Muslim<br/>thinkers – such as al-Ghazali – who integrated these fields in their own work. The course will<br/>contextualize Islamic answers to the questions of reason and revelation, human responsibility<br/>and God's action, aesthetics, and legal reasoning while introducing the student to the important<br/>scholarly and historiographical discussions surrounding them.

Sec. 2/2 (Ref# 07697/07698) M

2:00pm-4:45pm

DOD 0207

## REL4304/5305

American Judaism

Dr. Kavka

This course is a survey of both American Jewish history and American Jewish theology. Historical topics covered include Judaism in the Colonial period, the wave of German-Jewish immigration to America in the mid-nineteenth century, the flood of Eastern European Jewish immigrants from 1880-1924, the conflicts between American Jews of German and Eastern European descent, anti-Semitism in America, and the role of women in American Jewish life. We will also cover the changes that Jewish theology has undergone, from the rise of Reform Judaism in America as a result of German immigration, to conflicts between Jews over the issue of Zionism, to Mordecai Kaplan's founding of the Reconstructionist movement in Judaism and the way in which this opened the way for Jewish theologians in other denominations to think more deeply about the meaning of Jewish belief. In the final week of the course, we will discuss the issues raised by the increasing fragmentation of Jewish denominational communities from each other.

Requirements: three papers, participation. Because part of this class is lecture-based, this class does not fulfill the Department of Religion's seminar requirement.

Sec. 3/3 (Ref# 07713/07714) MW 5:15pm-6:30pm DOD 0207

## REL4333/5332

Modern Hinduism

**Dr. Erndl** 

Is there such a thing as Hinduism? If so, what is it? How has it changed, and where is it going in the future? This course explores selected topics in 19th, 20th, and 21st century Hinduism, including popular religion, thinkers, reform movements, gurus, nationalism, gender issues, secularism, and pluralism. Emphasis is on Hinduism in the social, political, and religious context of India, with some attention to transnational Hinduism and Hindu-inspired religious movements in North America. Also considered will be notions of "modernity" and "post-modernity" as ideologies or "states of mind" and how these have interfaced with Hinduism. Course objectives are: 1) to explore issues in modern Hinduism in more depth than is possible in an introductory course through extensive reading and discussion, 2) to analyze these issues in class discussions and weekly response papers, and 3) to research topics of interest related to the course themes and to present this research to the class, both orally and in writing.

Prerequisite: REL 2315 (Religions of South Asia) or a course on Hinduism (such as REL 3335 or 3337) or on the history or anthropology of India. Graduate students in Religion are exempt from this prerequisite.

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# \*\*\*\*\*/07696) Μ 2:00pm-4:45pm **DOD 0118** 

## REL4359/5354

**Chinese Buddhist Studies** 

Dr. Yu

This seminar covers the history and historigraphical issues in the study of Chinese Buddhism. It examines scholarly issues and debates in Chinese Buddhist doctrines and practices from the 19th century to the present, focusing on scholarly representations, constructs, and paradigms in Chinese Buddhist studies. The seminar reveals the methodological shifts in the field from philology to philosophy; from sectarian concerns to missionary biases; from doctrinal orientations to anthropological approaches. While various Chinese Buddhist traditions will be studied, we will narrow in on two specific traditions (the Pure Land and Chan Buddhism) towards the end of the semester. Permission of instructor required.

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# \*\*\*\*\*/\*\*\*\*\*) Т 2:00pm-4:45pm **BEL 0003** 

### REL4510/5297 **Christianity After the New Testament**

This survey course covers major developments in the history and theology of Christianity in the first three centuries of the common era. Particular attention will be paid to the interaction between Christians and non-Christians, the articulation of ideas about orthodoxy and heresy, and the development of Christian rituals, ethics, and church offices. Assigned readings focus primarily on ancient Christian texts in English translation. The course format will be part lecture and part group discussion.

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# 07628/07629) TR 12:30pm-1:45pm **DOD 0207** 

## **Dr. Kellev**

## REL4912/5915

Sanskrit Texts

**Dr. Erndl** 

Reading of selected texts in the Sanskrit language. May be repeated for up to 12 hours of credit. *For continuing students only at the intermediate/advanced level. Permission of instructor required.* 

Sec. 1/1 (Ref# \*\*\*\*\*/04112) TBA

REL5035Seminar: Introduction to the Study of ReligionDr. DayThis seminar is designed to introduce first-year graduate students in the Department of Religion<br/>to some of the crucial texts, theories, and methodological considerations that constitute the<br/>academic study of religion. The Fall 2011 version is built around one question: What would this<br/>corner of the academy look like if we abandoned the category of "religion" as an *analytic* or<br/>scholarly tool for explaining various features of collective life?

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04101) W 2:00pm-4:45pm DOD 0207

**REL5195** The Bible as a Book (13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Century) Dr. Dupuigrenet This interdisciplinary graduate seminar will study the production of Bibles from the later Middle Ages (13th c.) through the Early Modern Period (18th c.) in Western Europe, primarily France and England. After surveying the history of biblical texts, the course will focus on three major topics:

- · Technical aspects of manuscript and printed Bibles
- The Bible as Graphic Space : The layout and illustration of Bibles
- · Quantitative Approaches: The production and diffusion of Bibles

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04102) R 2:00pm-4:45pm BEL 0007

REL5319Translating Classical Chinese Religious TextsDr. YuThis is a seminar in the reading and translating of selected primary sources in classical Chinese<br/>texts from different historical periods and religions, specifically Buddhism and Daoism.Dr. YuPrerequisite: Familiarity with classical Chinese and religions.Dr. Yu

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04105) TBA

REL5497Contemporary Issues in Catholic Moral TheologyDr. KalbianThis graduate seminar will introduce students to current philosophical and theological debates in<br/>Catholic moral theology through careful reading of important figures in this area (Richard<br/>McCormick, Charles Curran, James Keenan, Lisa Cahill, Germaine Grisez, Martin Rhonheimer,<br/>Jean Porter, John Paul II, Bendedict XVI, and others).

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04108) T 2:00pm-4:45pm MON 0104

**REL6498** 19<sup>th</sup> Century America Dr. Corrigan We will study a wide-ranging set of issues and themes in nineteenth century American religion, including: gender, race, psychology, healing, science, law, Native American religion, religious intolerance, material culture, immigration, war, and historiography. Classes will consist of lectures, participants' presentations, and discussion. A publishable paper will be required.

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04116) R 2:00pm-4:45pm DOD 0207

**REL6904 Puritan Influence in American History & Missions Abroad Dr. Porterfield** Although the original nature of puritanism is hard to pin down, and perceptions of puritanism depart significantly from whatever was original, the influences of puritanism in American history and American missions abroad are ubiquitous and powerful. To sort out these historical origins and influences, the seminar will examine four aspects of puritanism:

 $\star$  its complex, contested character in 17th century Britain and America

 $\star$  texts that attained iconic status as epitomes of American puritanism

 $\star$  the cultural work that memories of puritanism played in 19th & 20th century America

 $\star$  the puritan legacy in American military and missionary endeavors

Sec. 1 (Ref# 04117) T 2:00pm-4:45pm DOD 0207

SRK5236

Intermediate Sanskrit

Dr. Erndl

Sanskrit, known as the "language of the gods", is a classical language of India and scriptural language for Hinduism and Buddhism. As a member of the Indo-European linguistic family, it is related to Greek, Latin, and English, as well as to languages of modern India such as Hindi, Marathi, and Bengali. After completing the final lessons in the *Devavanipravesika* textbook, students increase their speed and confidence in reading Sanskrit texts of increasing difficulty. Writing, grammar, oral recitation, and pronunciation are also emphasized. This is the first semester of the second year course. *For continuing students only. Permission of instructor required.* 

Sec. 1 (Ref# 07765) TBA