



Fall 2009
Courses

Department of
Religion

Tufts University

126 Curtis St

Medford, MA 02155

Telephone (617) 627-6528

Fax (617) 627-6615

<http://ase.tufts.edu/religion/>

Fall 2009 Courses

Religion Department Courses

REL 1 Introduction to Religion 11 T 6:30-9:00	O'Leary
REL 6 Philosophy of Religion F+ TH 12:00-1:15	Lemons
REL 10-15 Islam: Scripture, Authority, and Canon D+ TH 10:30-11:45	Garden
REL 21 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible F+ TH 12:00-1:15	Hutaff
REL 35 Introduction to Christianity I+ MW 3:00-4:15	Curtis
REL 42 Religion and US Politics E+ MW 10:30-11:45	Curtis
REL 48 Introduction to Islam J+ TH 3:00-4:15	Garden
REL 56 Catholicism E+ MW 10:30-11:45	O'Leary
REL 99 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion 1 T 9:00-11:30	Lemons
REL 199 Senior Honors Thesis	

Courses Co-listed with Religion

REL 4 Art, Ritual, and Culture	Hoffman E MW 10:30 - 11:20, C-LST FAH 1-01
REL 5 Intro to the Arts of Asia	Kaminishi D+ TH 10:30-11:45, C-LST FAH 5-01
REL 10-1 Introduction to the Arts of Armenia	Maranci J+ TH 3:00-4:15
REL 10-10 Introduction to Judaism	Summit H+ TR 1:30-2:45, C-LIST JS 92
REL 15 Japanese Architecture	Kaminishi J+ TH 3:00-4:15, C-LIST FAH 15
REL 25 Medieval Architecture	Overbey G+ MW 1:30-2:45, C-LIST FAH 25
REL 28 Medieval Art: Mediterranean	Hoffman K+ MW 4:30-5:45, C-LIST FAH 28
REL 68 Martin Luther: Man and His Era	Brown J+ TH 3:00-4:15, C-LST GER 68
REL 73 Aspects of the Shephardic Tradition	Asher L+ TR 4:30-5:45, C-LIST JS 73
REL 115 Japanese Architecture	Kaminishi J+ TH 3:00-4:15, C-LIST FAH 115
REL 125 Medieval Architecure	Overbey J+ TH 3:00-4:15, C-LIST FAH 125

REL 128 Medieval Art: Mediterranean Hoffman G+ MW1:30-2:45, C-LIST FAH 128

REL 132 The Book of Genesis Rosenberg K+, M+ W 4.30-7.15, C-LIST JS 132

REL 134 Myth, Ritual, and Symbol Stanton F+ TR 12:00-1:15, C-LIST ANTH 132

REL 157 Theories Spiritual Development Scarlett 7 W 1:30-4:00, C-LISH CD 157

REL 192-18 Law & Religion in Middle Eastern History Manz 7 W 1:30-4:00

Please see sponsoring departments' websites for course descriptions.

Course Descriptions

REL 1 Introduction to Religion

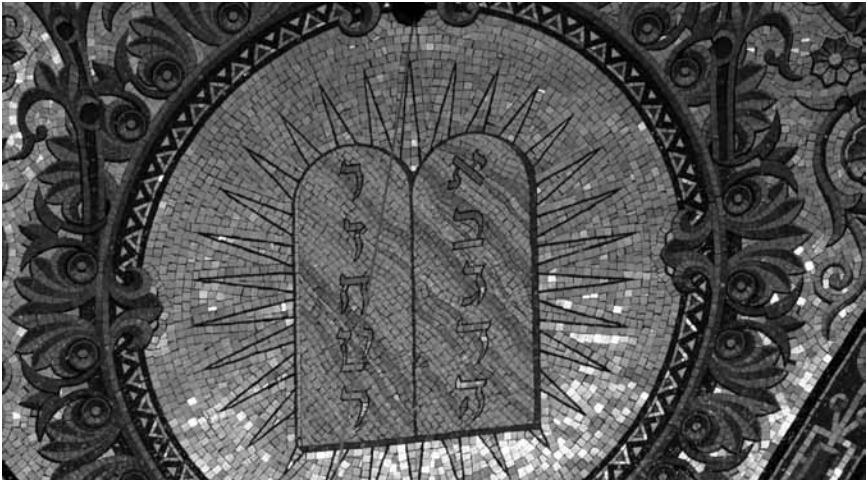
Fr. David O'Leary 11 T 6:30-9:00

An introduction to the field of religion to give the student an understanding of the basic elements of the subject: the major characteristics, the forms and expressions, and the contributions to man's personal and social orientation.

REL 6 Philosophy of Religion

Elizabeth Lemons F+ TH 12-1:15

This course offers an introduction to the philosophical analysis of major religious issues. We will explore such topics as the nature of religion, religious experience, and ultimate reality, the problem of evil or suffering, and the relationship between faith and reason and between religion





and science. By exploring different philosophical approaches to the study of religion—including existential, phenomenological, linguistic and comparative, students will develop constructive responses to the variety of ways in which philosophers analyze religious beliefs and practices in diverse world religions. Co-listed as PHIL 16.

REL 10-15 Islam: Scripture, Authority, and Canon

Ken Garden D+ TH 10:30-11:45

Islamic scripture does not consist exclusively of the Qur'an. In addition to the canonical Qur'an, there are also anecdotes about the Prophet Muhammad known as Hadith, which exist in a spectrum of canonicity. Quranic references to the lives of other prophets, Biblical and otherwise, find additional fleshing out in the "Tales of the Prophets" (qisas al-anbiya'), of which there is no canonical version and whose authority is contested. The Hadith find their context in the biography of the prophet, known as the Sira, of which there is, likewise, no canonical version. This class will explore these four scriptural genres and their interrelationship. This will be done through extensive readings in translation, scholarship on the origins of the Qur'an and Hadith, and comparison of Biblical narratives to Quranic narratives and narratives from the Tales of the Prophets.



REL 42 Religion and US Politics

Heather Curtis E+ MW 10:30-11:45

“In God we Trust,” “One Nation Under God,” “God Bless America,”: phrases like these alert us to the on-going influence of religion on American public life. This course explores the role of religion in shaping American civic engagement and political activity from the seventeenth century to the present, aiming to put contemporary events in broader historical context. Key topics and themes include: the relationship between church and state in the colonial period; faith and the founders; religion and social activism in the antebellum era (especially anti-slavery and women’s rights); religion, race and Civil Rights; religious “outsiders” and American politics (particularly Mormons, Catholics, and Muslims); spirituality and social protest in the 20th century (pacifism; feminism; and economic reform); the rise of the religious right; religion and American politics post-9/11; and the 2008 presidential election. Co-listed as HIST 126.

REL 48 Introduction to Islam

Ken Garden J+ TH 3:00-4:15

This course will begin with an overview of Muslim scripture and sacred history as seen by both Sunni and Shiite. It will present Muslim ritual, the religious disciplines of law, theology, and mysticism, and also popu-

lar understandings and practices of Islam. The class will end with an exploration of various manifestations of Islam in the Modern world.

REL 56 Catholicism

Fr. David O'Leary E+ MW 10:30-11:45

An introduction to the development of the Catholic Church, exploring the key historical epochs and events that shaped and created the contemporary church. The dynamics of crisis and change as these are manifested in history and as they function today. Doctrines, traditions, and institutional forms will be examined in their specific historical and cultural contexts.

REL 99 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion

Elizabeth Lemons 1 T 9-11:30

The seminar aims to enhance students' capacity to analyze and discuss theoretical and methodological issues in the academic study of religion. We will explore selected important modern texts that raise enduring questions about such issues as the nature of religious phenomena, their purpose in societies, and their comparability across cultures. In addition, we will consider recent work by scholars of religion that critiques earlier perspectives and/or raises new issues. Discussion of case studies will facilitate analysis of the benefits and liabilities of various methodological and theoretical perspectives. Through analysis of significant approaches and issues, students will develop an understanding of their own presuppositions and perspectives in relation to the field of religious studies. Prerequisites: two Religion courses, or permission. Required course for Religion majors and minors.



The Religion Major

Ten courses distributed as follows:

- Foundation Requirement

After taking two courses in the department, students must take REL 99 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion.

- Diversity Requirement (four courses)

Students should have exposure to at least four different religions traditions through classes in which four different traditions are taught, or through four courses, each focused on a different religious tradition, or through some combination thereof.

- Depth Requirement (three courses)

Students must choose a religious tradition, the traditions of a geographical region, or a religious textual tradition and take at least three classes in that specialty. One of the three courses must be in the doctrinal (theological and philosophical) aspects of religion and two must be 100-level courses.

- Two Additional Courses

The two courses can be listed or cross-listed within the department.

The Religion Minor

Five courses distributed as follows:

- Foundation Requirement

After taking two courses in the department, students must take REL 99 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion.

- Diversity Requirement (three courses)

Students should have exposure to at least three different religions traditions through classes in which four different traditions are taught, or through four courses, each focused on a different religious tradition, or through some combination thereof.

- Upper-division Requirement

One other course at the 100-level that does not count for any of the above requirements.

Notes

Religion Faculty

Kevin Dunn, Department Chair
Adjunct Professor
Department of English
kevin.dunn@tufts.edu
English Bible

Heather Curtis, Assistant Professor
126 Curtis Street, Room 302
heather.curtis@tufts.edu
Christianity, religion in America

Kenneth Garden, Assistant Professor
126 Curtis Street, Room 303
ken.garden@tufts.edu
Islam, Islamic Revival, Sufism

Peggy Hutaff, Senior Lecturer
126 Curtis Street, Room 301
peggy.hutaff@tufts.edu
Bible and Feminist theologies

Elizabeth Lemons
Senior Lecturer
126 Curtis Street, Room 301
elizabeth.lemons@tufts.edu
Religion and culture, philosophy and religion

Gary Leupp
Adjunct Professor
Department of History
gary.leupp@tufts.edu
Japanese history and religions

Reverend David O'Leary
Senior Lecturer, Chaplaincy
Goddard Chapel
david.oleary@tufts.edu
Catholicism, medical ethics, world religions

Joseph Walser, Associate Professor
On leave Fall 2009
126 Curtis Street, Room 305
joseph.walser@tufts.edu
Asian religions