

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2015

Course RELS 373.10 L01 Topics in Religious Studies (Religion and Music)
Time TR 15:30 - 16:45
Instructor Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD
Office Hours T/R 1:30-2:30 in SS 555
Office SS 502
E-mail cwcginn@ucalgary.ca
Telephone 220-5612

Required Text(s):

Sacred Sound. Guy L. Beck (editor). Waterloo, ON: Wilfred Laurier University Press, 2006.

Additional online readings to be posted on D2L.

Course Description:

Music has been and continues to be one of the most important elements of religious experience, ritual and expression. From the earliest musical traditions to contemporary ‘religious radio’, music has been a critical part of how people have experienced and shape their worlds, including how they have understood their relationships to the immanent and transcendent. From the Vedic hymns to the songs of Hare Krishna devotees or the psalms of David to U2 rock anthems, music has been a deliberate mode of constructing religion.

This course will examine the intersection of religion and music. Several religions will receive emphasis, including Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism, and Christianity. To a lesser extent course material will explore Buddhism and Islam. The course will also focus on religious music associated with North American movements such as Mormonism, Evangelicalism, and Pentecostalism. In the North American context students will consider specific genres of music, including Protestant hymnody, slave songs and African-American spirituals, gospel music, and contemporary Christian music. The course will conclude with an exploration of spiritual themes in popular music.

Students will be introduced to various lenses of investigation including philosophical (the nature of music), musicological (the role of music), doxological (music in worship), theological (creedal expression in lyrics), liturgiological (music in liturgy), and phenomenological (music and spiritual experience).

The course will be composed of four modules:

- Module 1 Methods and Concepts in the Study of Religion and Music
- Module 2 Music in Eastern Religious Traditions
- Module 3 Music in Western Religious Traditions
- Module 4 North American Religious Music and Religious Themes in Popular Music

Online elements for this course:

Supplemental course materials will be posted on D2L.

Core Competencies:

Upon completion of this course, students will become familiar with:

- the study of religion and music as academic subjects
- the philosophical inquiry into the nature of music
- the functional canonicity of texted music
- the relationship between musical expression and religious experience
- the role of music in religious traditions
- theological-categorical analysis to assess religious meanings in texted music
- the relationship between music and belief (*lex orandi lex credendi*)
- hermeneutical analysis of songs and song writers (operant hermeneutic)
- investigation of religion and music through various research lenses including philosophy, musicology, doxology, theology, liturgy, and phenomenology

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
January 26	Module 1 Test (based on lectures and readings January 14, 19, 21)	15%
February 11	Module 2 Test (based on lectures, readings, and guest presentations January 28, February 2, 4, and 9)	20%
March 15	Module 3 Test (based on lectures, readings, and guest presentations February 23, 25, March 1, 3, 8, 10)	20%
April 7	Assignment Due (Assignment options include a 1800-2000 word paper or a creative project)	35%
April 12	Module 4 Test (based on lectures, readings, and guest presentations March 17, 22, 24, 29, 31, April 5, 7)	10%

This course will not have a Registrar-scheduled final examination.

Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, standardized within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Policy with regard to missed assessments: If a student misses a test, the student must provide the instructor with supporting documentation (note from doctor, counselor, accident report, etc.) within 48 hours of the absence. If documentation is not provided within 48 hours, the student will not be provided an opportunity to make up the test and will receive a numerical mark of zero. There are of course many reasons for missing the test that are not considered to be valid, including but not limited to: work schedules that conflict with the day of the test, family functions that conflict with the day of the test, forgetting about the test, traffic congestion on the day of the test, and having no internet connection on the day of the test.

Extra Assignments: There are no extra assignments for this course. Students will not be given an opportunity to submit extra work or retake tests to increase their grade.

Weighting of Module Tests: The weighting for module tests is identified above. The weighting of tests will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Please be courteous toward other students in the course. For students who raise questions during class, please contribute to the resourceful use of classroom time by limiting the number of questions you ask in each class. While evaluative inquiries are permitted, students are encouraged to steer their inquires toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas.

Expectations for email correspondence in this course:

Please identify the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by name and the course you are registered in. Please do not send email inquiries related to dates and deadlines. Students shall refer to the university calendar, course outline, and final exam schedule for schedule information. Inquiries related to exams or assignments must be sent no less than 24 hours before a deadline. Do not ask the instructor to preview your exam answers and study materials.

Electronic Device Policy:

Laptops are permitted if used for the purpose of taking lecture notes. Do not use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other nonacademic activities. Cell phones must be turned off during the entire class time. Texting during class is not permitted. Taking pictures in the classroom is not permitted. This includes taking pictures of data projector images and slides. Students that distract

the instructor or other students due to the misuse of electronic devices during class will be requested to leave the classroom.

Recording of lectures is prohibited without the consent of the instructor. According to Academic Regulations E.6, “With the permission of the instructor, students may tape record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a Release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered.”

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

References and Bibliography:

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html. Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.)If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, librarian staff or the Chicago manual of style.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ’s about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students’ Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at

<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.