Updated January 8, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2018

Course	**RELS 201 L01 – Jews, Christians, and Muslims**
Time	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 12:00pm – 12:50pm Room SA 106
Instructor	Jacqueline Ho, PhD
Office Hours	Available by appointment from 1:00pm-1:30pm on MWF; Please make appointment for other available times
Office	SS 542
E-mail	jdho@ucalgary.ca I can be reached by email from Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 9:00pm. Please e-mail me to make an appointment (please ensure that your name and the course number are included in the email). I am generally available after class. If you require more privacy to discuss your concerns, appointments can be scheduled in my office. All e-mail queries will be returned within 48 hours (usually on the same day). E-mails received on the weekend will typically be responded to on Sunday evening.

Required Text(s): Esposito, John L., Darrell J. Fasching, and Todd Lewis. Religions of the West Today. 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.

Course Description in Calendar: Introduction to Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

What will we study in this course? This course will offer an introductory survey of Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the geographical areas of Israel, Greece, Italy and Arabia from a non-denominational perspective. Students will examine the narratives of important figures such as Abraham, Jesus, and the Prophet Muhammad to shed light on essential themes in their respective traditions. Such topics will include the discussion of covenants, ideas about salvation, the relationship with God, the functions of ministry, key tenets, and observances and practices. This course will focus on the historical development of these ideas beginning in the 16th Century BCE up to the 7th Century CE.

As an introductory course, this course will not offer an in-depth analysis and study of the Western religious traditions, but it will serve as an important foundation for those wishing to enroll in higher level RELS courses, in addition to being an integral component in the general study of humanities.
**Topics presented may be subject to change based on the pace of the course. For example, some material may require extra review, which will affect the number of topics covered.

Online elements for this course: Powerpoint lectures, readings, announcements, important updates, grades, and film links will be regularly updated on D2L. It is the student's responsibility to check the D2L page for this class periodically (once a week is recommended).

D2L can be accessed at: https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/login.asp (student login required)
It is crucial for you to attend class, as the textbook and powerpoint slides will *not* provide a comprehensive account of the material covered in class (they only account for 50-60% of the course

content). The PowerPoint slides are posted as a study reference for students but they are not a replacement for attending class, as class discussion and notes written on the chalk board will also be on the tests.

Core Competencies:
By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1) Comprehend how cultural assumptions and historical events shape religious perspectives about suffering,
2) Contrast different responses to suffering between various religious traditions,
3) Apply critical thinking to the problem of suffering based on academic sources.

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Midterm #1 Monday, Feb. 12th	Fill-in-the-Blank, Multiple Choice	35	No
Midterm #2 Monday, Mar. 19th	Fill-in-the-Blank, Multiple Choice	35	No
Registrar Scheduled **Final Exam** (Closed Book)	Fill-in-the-Blank, Multiple Choice	30	No

Test material will include lectures, class discussions, PowerPoints, guest speaker's visits (tentative), and assigned readings. *The last day to withdraw from a course is Friday, April 13, 2018.*

In-Class Assignments and Tutorials
There *may* be in-class assignments to generate peer discussion and to engage students deeper into the subject matter. Although the assignments will not be marked, questions on the assignments will appear on the test questions.

Prior to each test, there will be a brief tutorial session of approximately 30 minutes at the end of the last lecture. The tutorial will provide an opportunity for students to seek clarification on the test material, as well as to review sample questions. The length of the tutorial session will depend on the engagement of the students. It is recommended that students attend the tutorial sessions in order to adequately prepare for the tests.

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, usually used 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.

Grades will be posted on D2L. Percentage scores will be automatically rounded up by the instructor if they exceed 0.5% For example, a percentage of 69.5% C+ or higher will be rounded up to

70% B-. A percentage of 69.4% C+ will not qualify for being rounded up.

Policy with regard to missed classes: At the beginning of the semester, you will be asked to exchange contact information with two study buddies. They will be crucial to your performance in this course if you miss a class.

If you cannot attend class, then please follow these steps:

1) Check D2L for the Lesson Plan and Powerpoints on the missed day,
2) Check with your study buddy for further missed information,
3) Do the readings and review the Powerpoint slides,
4) If you have questions about the **course content** ONLY, then contact the instructor

**Please do not skip to step #4 without performing steps #1-3. In other words, please do not ask the instructor about what you missed without checking the available resources first (listed above).

Requesting Extra Work: In order to ensure equality for all students, extra work will not be assigned to individual students who wish to boost their mark. If you have concerns about your grade, then please consult with your instructor or teaching assistant for consultation and suggestions about how to improve your learning and study habits at the earliest possible time.

Expectations for student conduct in this course: In order to foster peer-learning and sharing, students may be broken into small groups or pairs during class to discuss course-related topics. At this time, please keep personal conversation to a minimum, so as not to disrupt the concentration of your peers.

Electronic Device Policy: If cellular phones must be used for emergency purposes on *occasion* during class, then please do so discreetly. If cellular phone use becomes disruptive and distracting to the instructor and other students, then your privileges will be revoked. Likewise, laptops and tablets should be used for note taking only. Please do not distract your peers by watching videos or browsing social media/internet.

Syllabus:
A complete syllabus with the lecture schedule will be made available the first week of class.

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, or librarian staff.

Student Accommodations:
The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

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.

Freedom of Information and Privacy:
This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

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.