

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

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2015

Course	Religious Studies 399.06 Religion, Irreligion and Film
Time	Block week Sept 1-5 2015, 9am-5pm daily
Instructor	Dr. Tinu Ruparell
Office Hours	By appointment during block week. T 11am-12pm during term
Office	SS554
E-mail	ruparell@ucalgary.ca
Telephone	4032207069

Required Text(s): Readings will be made available on D2L

Course Description:

Please note that this course will run from Tuesday 1st Sept - Saturday 5th Sept. Please ensure you are able to attend all day, each day of the course

This course will run for 5 days during block week from 9 am to approximately 5 pm daily. Success in this block week course requires full attendance, thorough preparation and engagement with the material and, of course, prompt submission of all assessed requirements. Failure to complete and submit all assessed course requirements will result in a grade of F for the course. NO extensions will be permitted and NO late papers/assignments will be accepted without a medical certificate.

Students should be aware of the following important regulations concerning Block Week courses: The last day to drop a Block Week course (without the course appearing on the student's transcript) is the **end of the first day of lectures**. The last day to withdraw from a Block Week course is the **final day of lectures during the Block Week**. Final grades for Block Week courses will not be required until the end of the term in which the course is offered.

This is a mid-level course aimed at examining how religious, non-religious and anti-religious perspectives have been expressed through the medium of film – and how film has forced us to interrogate the nature of religion. We will be interested in exploring various philosophical issues arising out of the filmmaker's interaction with culture and the way in which these interactions relate to wider religious traditions, themes, practices and concerns. Through an examination of certain key philosophical writings as well as careful analyses of a selection of films, we will interrogate the notion of religion as a system of meaning production as well as the uses to which film has been put in expressing these meanings.

Core Competencies:

Committed students in this class will have the opportunity to reflect on some key issues in the study of religion and film and in so doing will gain critical reading, interpretive and analytic skills. Additionally, students will begin to acquire abilities in forming clear, concise and cogent arguments, develop their writing and communication skills and broaden their perspectives on the place of religion in contemporary visual culture. Skills acquired in this course will have relevance in upper level courses in the humanities as well as in wider social settings. Knowledge acquired in this course will help students reflect more clearly and critically on the relationship between religion and culture and on their own religious or irreligious narratives

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
Sept 1 st	In-class exam covering pre-reading materials	20
Sept 5	In-class assignment covering week's readings	30
Sept 5	Written exam on film clips	10
Sept 9	2000 word essay due to Dept of Classics and Religion by Noon in hard copy.	40
There is no registrar scheduled exam for this course		

Please note: No emailed or electronic versions of the paper will be accepted – only a paper copy due by NOON to the Dept of Classics and Religion, Social Sciences 558. Paper topics will be made available on the last day of class after 5pm

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

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:

NB: ** Failure to write an exam or submit an assessment will result in an F in this part of the course. Given the compressed nature of the course NO exceptions or rescheduling will be allowed without extremely extenuating circumstances and must be accompanied by relevant medical certificates, etc. This is to help ensure that the course is completed in the required time. Students who know or suspect that they will be unable to attend the class regularly or have to miss one of the assessment dates should consider their participation in this course.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

Please see handout on how to be a student in Dr. Ruparell's classes.

Electronic Device Policy:

No electronic devices may be used during the course apart from those required for accessibility reasons according to the DRC. This includes laptops, phones, recording devices or other communication devices. This is partly to avoid distraction caused by screens during viewings of the films but also because of the ample evidence of the deleterious effects on learning.

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, or librarian staff.

Student Accommodation

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.

Gnosis

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Classics Student Society

Classics Student Society is the Greek and Roman Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: classsoc@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://grst.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/classics-students-society>.

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.