

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**Rel 343 L01**

*Religion and Social Morality*

**TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2010**

**Logistics**

**Time:** Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Location:** SH 274

**Instructor:** Dr. David A. Bergen  
[dabergen@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dabergen@ucalgary.ca)  
403-220-7063

**Office Hours (SS 1308):** Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

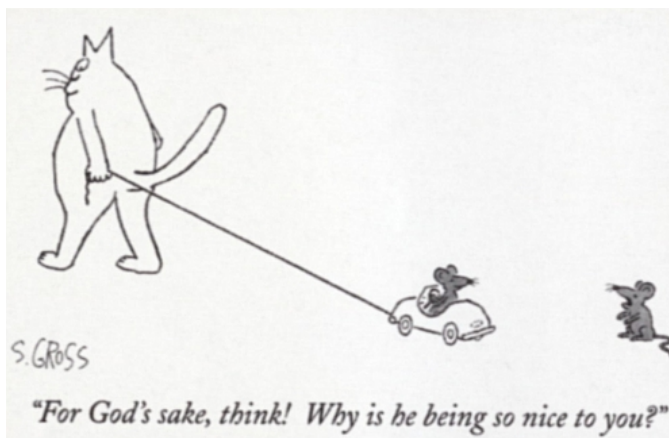
**Textbooks:** Loyal Rue, *By the Grace of Guile: The Role of Deception in Natural History and Human Affairs*.

*CBS Survivor*

Additional PDF materials posted on Blackboard, “Course Documents.”

**Course Description**

This course defines social morality as “a (*hide and seek*) game of getting, one that is internalized through socialization, modified through experience, driven by desire.” In exploring this most serious of games, we will focus on the presence and function of *deception* within social systems. The data for our analytical discussions will range from the animal world to our own classroom, from global scenarios to local situations, with frequent assessments of that most deceptive of human inventions: religion. The course will be divided into two streams, one focusing on “the game” (i.e., social morality), the other focusing on “the players.”



<b>Learning Assessment</b>	Instructor-directed assessments (six tests equally weighted)	50%
	Group-work (with input from students)	50%
		Total: 100%

\*There will be no Registrar scheduled final exam for this course.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- given the nature of the subject and the approaches adopted, it is vital that students attend the first two weeks of class.
- within the first two weeks, students will be allowed considerable input in constructing the class-based “group-work” component so that diligence is rewarded and free-riding penalized.
- the test dates and assignment deadlines will be posted on Blackboard, under “Course Information.” Tests and assignments must be written/submitted on the dates scheduled. No exceptions will be made, except for death, significant illness, or domestic affliction (corroborated by a valid, original note from a physician or counselor). The instructor must be contacted within twenty-four hours of a missed exam or deadline.
- course assessments are avenues wherein students will be carefully graded and ranked for their ability to articulate knowledge, demonstrate comprehension, and exhibit student effort. The tests are not directly cumulative, though an increasing level of understanding is expected as we proceed through the term.
- students anticipating a class absence should find a classmate willing to loan his/her notes; no lecture notes are available from the instructor.
- recording of lectures is not permitted, except by special permission.
- students must maintain “back up” copies of all submissions; no concessions will be made for “lost” materials.
- students are encouraged to discuss the course materials with the instructor. An appointment can be set up for this purpose, either verbally or through email. When arranging to see the instructor, students are asked to be specific in terms of the issues or topics they wish to discuss.

**Grading Scale** A numerical grade is assigned for each course requirement. Following the final graded component, a letter grade is assigned, using the department-approved table of equivalencies:

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

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

**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. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.*

**Academic Accommodation** If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor **two weeks** before the scheduled date.

**Course Withdrawal** Please note the information regarding withdrawals and fee refunds in the Academic Schedule of the current University Calendar

**Lecture  
Recording**

Recording any part of any lectures in any form must be first approved by the instructor in writing and is for individual private study only. See current Calendar, Tape recording of Lectures.

**Safewalk  
Program**

"You don't have to walk alone...." Call 403-220-5333 and a member of the Safewalk Team will walk you to your car, the LRT, or any destination on campus. Safewalk is available to all students, staff and faculty any time of the day or night. Look for the Campus Security Help Phones located throughout the University. Please don't hesitate to call!

**Gnosis**

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