

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

12/12/05

Course: Religious Studies 577 L02 Senior Project Seminar  
Time: F 9:00 – 11:50  
Instructor: Anne Moore  
Office Hours: TR 10:00 – 11:30  
Office: Social Sciences 1324  
Telephone: 220-3288; 210-0801 (Fax)  
E-Mail: amoore@ucalgary.ca

Blackboard: Some course material will be available through blackboard: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>

Course Description:

The course design addresses four areas. First, the focus of the course will be an independent research project devised by each student. This focus on a single research project will provide the students with opportunities to evaluate and reflect on their individual research and writing processes. Second, the research project should either capture a specific interest, or provide student with an opportunity to explore interests that have emerged out of other courses. In other words, the students will be setting their own research agendas similar to the scholars of the academy, or as will be required in other career contexts. Since the students will be designing their own research project, the parameters for the research project, upon prior approval, will be extended beyond the traditional thesis styled paper. Students considering careers outside the academy are encouraged to devise alternative projects that they may consider more appropriate. Third, the seminars will focus on the sharing of the research process; this sharing will highlight aspects associated with critiquing secondary sources, interpreting primary sources, developing appropriate methodology, and designing suitable means of communication for one's research. The weekly seminars are intended to be laboratories in which we, as scholars, consider, assess, and discuss our activities as scholars and researchers. Finally, because the content of the course is based on the varied research interests of Religious Studies majors, the seminars will be an environment in which the interdisciplinary approach and multi-perspective agenda of the field of Religious Studies will be explored.

Outcomes:

The course is intended to develop specific core competencies and skills. These will include: 1) critical and creative thinking/reasoning 2) problem solving, 3) interpreting information, 4) awareness and ability to deal with diversity 5) responding critically to both primary and secondary material 6) creating knowledge from information 7) communication skills and 8) persuading and influencing others. The seminar format of the course means students will be interactive participants in the presentation of the course material and gain some experience in oral communication and collaborative work.

Course Outline:

Each seminar will involve the presentation of some aspect of various students' research projects. These presentations will be scheduled in advance and will correspond to the students' current research activities. In other words, if a student is working on the interpretation of primary sources, the presentation will be on the primary source material; or, if a student is examining the history of the scholarly debate, the presentation will be on the scholarly debate. Each student will give two presentations on their research project. Further, each student will be required twice to respond to his or her peers' work. These responses will be thoughtful constructive assessments intended to summon a dialogue amongst the seminar participants on some issue related to the field of Religious Studies.

Course Requirements:

Requirements	Deadlines	Percentage
<b>1. Abstract</b>	Tuesday January 17	<b>5%</b>
<b>2. Research Project – Written Components</b>		
a. Written Review of Primary Material and Methodological Approach	Friday, March 3	<b>30%</b>

b. Written Review of Scholarly Discussion Related to Research Project	Friday March 31	<b>20%</b>
c. Final Written Presentation of Research Project	Monday April 10	<b>10%</b>
<b>3. Seminar Participation</b>		
a. Presentation on Material and/or Methodological Approach	Fridays January 27-March 3	<b>5%</b>
b. Presentation on Methodological Approach and/or Scholarly Discussion	Fridays March 10 – 31	<b>5%</b>
c. Response to Research Presentation I	Fridays January 27 – March 3	<b>10%</b>
d. Response to Research Presentation II	Fridays March 10 – 31	<b>10%</b>
e. Seminar Facilitator	Fridays January 20-March 31	<b>5%</b>

The adherence to deadlines is taken as a serious requirement and responsibility of the students in this course.

**There will be no Registrar scheduled final examination in this course.**

### Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. Following the final examination, a letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

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 adherence to proper bibliographical format, spelling, grammar, construction, and content.

### Recording of lectures:

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

### Academic Honesty:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity; see relevant pages in the current University Calendar.

### Academic Accommodation:

If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 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.

### Safewalk Program :

"You don't have to walk alone...." Call 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!

### Withdrawing from courses:

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

### 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>.