**FACULTY OF ARTS**
**DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**
**COURSE OUTLINE**
**Fall 2020**

**COURSE NUMBER:** RELS 601

**COURSE NAME:** Studies in Western Religions: Troublesome Saints

**CLASSROOM LOCATION:** Online.

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES**: Asynchronous lectures will be recorded for this unit and uploaded on to Desire2Learn (D2L). Synchronous elements of the unit will be delivered via Zoom and run on Thursdays 12:30-13:45.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**
Helen Castor, *Joan of Arc: A History* (London, 2014). [E-BOOK OR HARD COPY].
Anne Duggan, *Thomas Becket* (London, 2004).
André Vauchez, *Catherine of Siena: A Life of Passion and Purpose* (New York, 2018).
André Vauchez, *Francis of Assisi, The Life and Afterlife of a Medieval Saint* (New Haven, 2013). [E-BOOK OR HARD COPY].

**Office Hours**: Thursdays 14:00-15:00 or by appointment.

**INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT INCLUDING UCALGARY EMAIL & PHONE:**
Professor Carolyn Muessig
carolyn.muessig@ucalgary.ca
Office phone number: 403 220 3286

**INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:** You may email me with queries related to the unit using your ucalgary email. Please send queries Monday-Friday between 9:00am and 5:00pm. I will respond to emails sent via your @ucalgary email within 24 hours during standard work hours (this excludes responding on weekends and holidays). You should check your university email account once each weekday.

**COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT:**
A seminar course examining topics, personalities and movements in Christianity from its origins to its modern developments. Course Hours: 3 units. Prerequisite(s): 3 units from Religious Studies 383, 385, 387, or 389. (https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/religious-studies.html#32188)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**
In this course we will examine the conflicted depictions of medieval saints in the Middle Ages as well as the present day. We will assess how saints are remembered and described and why their portrayals often change over time. We will investigate the "troublesome" aspects of sanctity which suggest holy people were not patient and obedient models; rather, they often challenged contemporary religious expectations and social practices. The four saints under consideration will be Thomas Becket (d. 1170); Francis of Assisi (d. 1226): Catherine of Siena (d. 1380); and Joan of Arc (d. 1431). The unit will be taught

through recorded lectures and online class discussion that will explore questions arising from lectures and the readings.

### *For online courses:*

This course will take place online via D2L and Zoom. Asynchronous lectures will be recorded for this unit and uploaded on to D2L on a weekly basis and at least 24 hours before our synchronous meetings via Zoom. The synchronous part of this unit will be dedicated to addressing questions you may have arising from the lectures and readings. Equally, I will sometimes ask you questions in relation to the lectures and readings with the aim of facilitating a deeper comprehension of the course material and themes.

To best succeed in the course, students should read the unit textbooks, listen to the asynchronous lectures using the D2L learning environment and attend the synchronous Zoom sessions**.** When unable to participate live due to a time difference or unforeseen circumstances, inform me in advance, then listen to the relevant recordings that you missed and submit a brief reflection.

Synchronous Classes during the Fall Term run on Thursdays, 12:30–13:45 on the following dates:

**10 September 2020**
**17 September 2020**
**24 September 2020**
**1 October 2020**
**8 October 2020**
**15 October 2020**
**22 October 2020**
**29 October 2020**
**5 November 2020**
**19 November 2020**
**26 November 2020**
**3 December 2020**

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have:

1. Acquired a clear understanding of the historical implications of sanctity and how it reflects changing cultural, religious and political sensibilities.

2. Acquired the knowledge and skill to access critically a wide range of arguments and sources advanced by historians and theologians relating to saints in the medieval Church.

3. Acquired skills through written assignments and class discussion of how to present, analyse and evaluate complex ideas and arguments.

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

| **Required Textbooks.** |
| --- |

Helen Castor, *Joan of Arc: A History* (London, 2014).

Anne Duggan, *Thomas Becket* (London, 2004).
André Vauchez, *Catherine of Siena: A Life of Passion and Purpose* (New York, 2018).
André Vauchez, *Francis of Assisi, The Life and Afterlife of a Medieval Saint* (New Haven, 2013).
Primary source material will be available online. Links to be provided on D2L.

**LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**
There is a D2L site for this course which contains links to some required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

Students need to have reliable access to technology, as follows:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**
A detailed class schedule will be made available the first day of class.

**ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS**
There are four written assessment components that all align to learning outcomes 1,2,3. These consist of 3 short essays between 750-1000 words, and one letter addressed to a saint (500–750 words). Each assignment is weighted at 25%. Further details of assignments will be made available in the first class. Criteria for assessment will be posted on D2L.

| Due Date | Assessment | Weight |
|---|---|---|
| Monday, 5 October 2020, submit via Drop Box | Assignment 1: Short essay on Thomas Becket: (750-1000 words). | 25% |
| Monday, 2 November 2020, submit via Dropbox. | Assignment 2: Short essay on Francis of Assisi: (750-1000 words). | 25% |
| Monday, 23 November 2020, submit via Dropbox. | Assignment 3: Write a letter to Catherine of Siena (500-750 words). | 25% |
| Monday, 14 December 2020, submit via Dropbox. | Assignment 4: Short essay on Joan of Arc: (750-1000 words). | 25% |

**MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS**
If you miss a required component of the course, you must contact me in writing within 24 hours to discuss options to submit for that component. Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

**GRADING**

A letter grade will be assigned to each component of the course according to the University of Calgary's Graduate Studies Calendar:

| A+ | 4.0 | Outstanding |
|---|---|---|
| A | 4.0 | Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter |
| A- | 3.7 | Very good performance |
| B+ | 3.3 | Good performance |
| B | 3.0 | Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program. |
| B- | 2.7 | Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing grade. |
| C+ | 2.3 | All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise. |
| C | 2.0 | |
| C- | 1.7 | |
| D+ | 1.3 | |
| D | 1.0 | |
| F | 0.0 | |

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.
See also https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html.

Your final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

**EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING**

All written assignments will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. Please be sure to consult a

manual of style for your written assignments. I am happy with whatever one you use, but you need to indicate to me which one you are using. If you need recommendations, the latest edition of any of the following would be fine: *The Chicago Manual of Style*; *MLA Handbook*; *Turabian: A Manual for Writers*.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html.

## ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**
You are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. This engagement will assist you in being better prepared for written assessments.

**GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS**
Please submit all assignments electronically via the Dropbox in D2L. **Assignments should be submitted in Word.** Assignments should have a file name as follows: "First Name Last Name Assignment Number" (e.g., Alex Smith Assignment 2). Assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm on their due date. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

**CONDUCT**
Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

**USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS**
The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. You are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf

## GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS
Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions.

**COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK**
Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms.  Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with me.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS**
Include information related to relevant policies and supports for teaching and learning as indicated below.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**
Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.
For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:
https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf
https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf
Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMODATION**
It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.
Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf ).  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. 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/ .

**RESEARCH ETHICS (if applicable)**
If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb) before beginning the assignment.

**INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**
Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

**COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

**MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**
Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

***Media recording for lesson capture***

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

***Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices***

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

### *Media recording for the assessment of student learning*
The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**
The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at [https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf)

 **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**
Please visit the Registrar's website at: [https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines)
for additional important information on the following:
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk