

**The University of Calgary
Faculty of Humanities
Department of Religious Studies**

January 16, 2008

**Religious Studies 707.01
Topics in the Study of Religion**

**Winter 2008
Schedule to be arranged**

Instructor:

Dr. Tinu Ruparell

Office:

SS1320

Office Hours:

T 14:00 - 15:00 and by appointment

Telephone:

220-7069

Email:

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Texts:

A bibliography of texts to be consulted will be distributed in the first class

Course Description:

On Metaphor:

Metaphor is at the heart of both religious language and, as it is increasingly understood, cognition itself. This course will assay some of the current research on metaphor focussing particularly on its theorisation in religious studies and cognitive linguistics. A central question we will ask is whether and to what extent conceptual metaphorical maps are commensurable cross-culturally, that is, to what extent are metaphors reflective of thought across cultural boundaries if at all? The course will take the form of individual and group supervisions punctuating independent research.

Core Competencies:

Committed students to this course will gain an understanding of the role, structure and theories of metaphorical predication in both religious and other literature and expression. They will gain in their abilities to synthesise materials and present arguments concerning metaphor in both oral and written formats. Students will gain an awareness of the current level of debate and discussion regarding metaphor in religious studies and its potential use in cross-cultural discourses.

Course Requirements

Date	Assessment	Weight
Final 3 weeks of class (Schedule TBA)	Departmental presentation	35%
18 Apr 2008	Research paper, 4-5000 words	65%

*** There will be no registrar-scheduled final exam.**

Grading:

NB. The course instructor will consult the student's supervisor when determining the grade for all components of the course since students will be encouraged to get advice from their supervisors on the research requirements of the course.

A numerical grade will be given for each course requirement with a letter grade awarded as the cumulative grade for the course. Below is the table approved by the Department of Religious Studies:

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

NB. POLICY REGARDING MISSED ASSESSMENTS

Presentation:

Presentation dates, once agreed, are firm. Without acceptable documentation (i.e. medical certificate, police report, bereavement notice, confirmation of religious observance, or court summons), missed presentations will be awarded an 'F'.

The Departmental presentation will be a paper read or presented to faculty and other graduate students on a date to be agreed. Feedback from the discussion ensuing from your presentation can be used to revise your papers for final submission.