

**RELIGION DEPARTMENT
2009-2010 FALL
COURSE OFFERINGS**

Graduate Program

REL 501

Religion and the Tradition of Social Theory

Professor(s): Eddie S. Glaude

Description:

A critical introduction to developments in social theory that have influenced the academic study of religion, including the classic contributions of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber as well as more recent debates in anthropology and cultural theory. Required of, and designed for, first- and second-year graduate students in religion; others must receive the instructor's permission to enroll.

REL 504/HLS 504

Studies in Greco-Roman Religions: Literary and Documentary Papyrology

Professor(s): AnneMarie Luijendijk

Description:

This seminar introduces students to the exciting world of papyrology. Papyri have contributed greatly to our understanding of daily life, government, and textual transmission in antiquity. The course teaches students the skills to read and understand ancient documents and literature preserved on papyrus. Special attention will be paid to the importance of papyri for social history.

REL 507/HUM 507

Studies in Religion and Philosophy: Values, Ideals, and Powers

Professor(s): Jeffrey L. Stout, Cornel R. West

Description:

An examination of aspects of life that resist reduction to instrumental reasoning, such as: the vehement passions, sacred value, catastrophic events, rights-talk, and practices of accountability and mutual recognition. Other Issues include commodity fetishism and the role of religious attitudes in ethics and politics.

REL 510/JDS 510

Special Topics in the Study of Religion: Toledot Yeshu

Professor(s): Peter Schäfer

Description:

This graduate seminar (undergraduate students will be admitted) will discuss the polemical tract *Toledot Yeshu* in its narrative and historical context. We will first survey the evidence about Jesus of Nazareth as it is preserved in the classical rabbinic literature (primarily the Babylonian Talmud) and will then read the most important versions of the *Toledot Yeshu*, using the manuscript evidence collected in the Princeton *Toledot Yeshu* project.

REL 518

Religion and Critical Thought Workshop

Professor(s): Leora F. Batnitzky

Description:

A weekly seminar focused on current student and faculty research in religion and critical thought, designed primarily for graduate students working on dissertations and general examination essays on the philosophy of religion, religious ethics, and the role of religion in politics.

REL 521

Religion and Culture Workshop

Professor(s): Eric Gregory

Description:

A weekly, year-long workshop devoted to the critical discussion of research in progress in the ethnographic, historical, and normative study of religion and culture. Designed for dissertation writers receiving fellowships from the Center for the Study of Religion and post-doctoral fellows.

REL 523

American Religious History Workshop

Professor(s): Judith L. Weisenfeld

Description:

A weekly, year-long workshop focused on the current research of visiting presenters, current students, and faculty in American religious history. The workshop is designed primarily for Ph.D. students in the field, but is open as well to undergraduate concentrators with a strong background in the study of American religion and culture. In order to receive a grade, students must take the course both semesters.

For more detailed information on each course, please visit:

<http://registrar1.princeton.edu/course/course.cfm>