

**RELIGION DEPARTMENT
2010-2011 SPRING
COURSE OFFERINGS**

Graduate Program

REL 505 */AUD

Studies in the Religions of the Americas - American Religion to 1865

Kathryn A. Gin

W 1:30-4:20

This readings seminar offers a broad survey of the scholarship on American religion to 1865. We read a combination of "classics" in the field alongside more recent literature that suggests where the field might be heading. We engage with texts that speak to specific cases and themes in early American religious thought and practice, and also with scholarly attempts to synthesize the material into a coherent whole.

REL 507 */AUD

Studies in Religion and Philosophy - Augustine and Political Augustinianisms

Eric S. Gregory

T 1:30-4:20

Recent developments in political theory, theology, and the study of late antiquity have led to revived interest in Augustine's ethics and politics within the broader context of his vision of Christian life. This interdisciplinary seminar examines these developments through close reading of primary texts, including Confessions, City of God, and other major treatises, but also some very revealing sermons and letters. Attention is paid to "classical" interpretations and a variety of contemporary authors who lay claim to Augustine and/or wrestle with his legacy for their constructive purposes. Topics include the self, political authority and citizenship, coercion and violence, secularity and liberalism, eschatology, empire, and the nature of tradition.

REL 519 */AUD

Religion and Critical Thought Workshop

Eric S. Gregory

Th 12:00-1:30

A weekly, year-long 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 522 */AUD

Religion and Culture Workshop

John G. Gager

W 12:30-2:00

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 524 */AUD

American Religious History Workshop

Jessica Delgado

Th 3:00-4:20

A weekly, year-long workshop focused on the current research of visiting presenters, current students, and faculty in American religious history. 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. Note: REL 523 (fall) and REL 524 (spring) constitute this year-long workshop. In order to receive credit and/or a grade, students must take the course both semesters.

REL 526 */AUD

Religions of Late Antiquity Workshop

Martha Himmelfarb

M 2:30-4:20

A weekly, year-long workshop providing students in the Religions of Late Antiquity with the opportunity to present their current research for discussion.

REL 532 */AUD

Studies in Chinese Religions

Stephen F. Teiser

Th 1:30-4:20

Critical examination of enduring and recent scholarship on popular Chinese religion, modernity, and ethnography. Designed for graduate students preparing general examinations or other work in Chinese religion.

REL 533 */AUD

Readings in Japanese Religions

Jacqueline I. Stone

T 1:30-4:20

This seminar will introduce representative primary texts in classical Japanese and kanbun from the medieval Japanese Buddhist tradition. It will focus on introducing students to a range of genres, such as doctrinal writings, ritual manuals, temple and shrine origin legends, vernacular sermons, didactic tales, and personal letters. Some readings may be selected to accommodate the research interests of seminar participants. Attention will be given to grammar, vocabulary, genre, literary and philosophical issues, and research methods.

REL 586 / NES 586 */AUD

Religious Authority in Modern Islam

Muhammad Q. Zaman

W 1:30-4:20

How far reaching is the "fragmentation" of religious authority in modern Islam? How have traditional religious scholars sought to rearticulate their authority in conditions of radical change? On what basis do "new religious intellectuals" make their claims to authority? How has the state shaped structures of religious authority? What is peculiar to modern Islam so far as conceptions of and contestations over religious authority are concerned? These are among the questions this seminar seeks to examine.

For more detailed information on each course, please visit:
<http://registrar1.princeton.edu/course/course.cfm>