

CGUC, University of Waterloo – Fall 2021

RS 327/CLAS 326/GSJ 327 – THE BODY, DRESS, AND RELIGION



Augustus of Prima Porta (1st century, Vatican Museum)

Instructor: Dr. Alicia Batten

Online Class Time: Wednesdays, 10 am – 11:20 via WebEx (link is on the LEARN page for the course)

Office Hours: By appointment via WebEx (same link as for the class)

Phone: 519-885-0220 x24246 (but better to email)

Email: abatten@uwaterloo.ca (please allow up to 24 hours response time)

Course Description

From clothing to hairstyles to tattoos, dress can express beliefs, aspects of identity, and power. This course examines dress in a variety of religions from ancient Greece to the modern era. The course includes attention to the look and feel of dress on the body, conflicts that can arise over dress and religion, as well as the role of dress in the formation and maintenance of religious communities.

Learning Goals

1. To understand the significance of the body and dress for the study religion, with a focus on “western” traditions (Greco-Roman Religions, Judaism, Christianity, Islam).
2. To gain the ability to analyse why dress can be the centre of conflict both historically and in the contemporary world.
3. To further develop research, writing and critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: At least level 2A

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and Participation in the Online Class – **10%** - We will meet online regularly throughout the semester. 50% of this participation mark is based on your attendance at these sessions, and 50% based on your participation through comments, questions, and observations. Sometimes I will put you in breakout rooms to talk about specific issues. If you miss the class,

recordings of class will be available on the LEARN page and you can make up for missing class by writing a 300 word summary (approximately) or an audio or video summary of the class, which you should submit to me within one week of missing the class. Failure to come to class and not supplying a summary of the recording results in a 2% reduction of your final **overall mark** for the course, per class missed.

2. 3 “Best” Discussion Board Posts – **15%** - Throughout the semester, you should post regularly to the Discussion Board (click on “Connect”, then “Discussion”). There are two main forums: “Ask the Instructor” and “Class Discussion”. The “Ask the Instructor” is reserved for questions to the instructor regarding practical matters in the course, content, as well as questions about assignments, bibliography etc.. . Nothing posted to “Ask the Instructor” will be marked. “Weekly Discussion,” however, consists of comments and questions about the material for each week. I create a new “Topic” for each week. Please post only after you have completed the reading, reviewed the LEARN materials, and come to our online class. *Please post your Discussion ideas in the appropriate week so that each Topic has a focus. You can start a new thread, or respond to a prior post from another student.* You can post as often as you like, and other students (and the instructor) may respond. Please be courteous, generous, and sensitive to the fact that the class consists of a diverse group of people with a wide range of perspectives. *You will get more out of the course the more you post. I will look at the Class Discussion posts regularly and will often participate, but you are encouraged to engage one another.* There are **3 specific days (Oct 1st, Nov 12th, Dec 3rd)** during the semester when you should submit what you think is your best post **from the intervening weeks** to the Dropbox. Your submissions will consist of the original discussion post as well as an explanation of why you think it was one of your best posts. Each of these are worth 5% (x3) = **15%**. See the separate assignment page for more details.

4. Mid-term Take Home Test – **due in Dropbox on Oct 22nd - 20%**. This will be an essay test. I will give you the questions ahead of time.

5. Annotated Bibliography and Paper Topic – **due in Dropbox on Nov 5th - 10%** - Students will submit paper topic and a bibliography of no less than 5 sources (books, articles, chapters – please do not use online sources unless it is from a peer-reviewed, online journal). This bibliography will be in Chicago style format, and will contain two or three sentences beneath each source indicating the value of the source for the paper. You may use materials that we are reading for the class. See separate assignment for more details. This bibliography will be the source of some of your evidence for your paper. I am always happy to help you find sources.

6. Paper – **due in Dropbox on November 26th - 25%** - This paper should be 2000-2500 words long (including footnotes or endnotes) plus a separate bibliography in Chicago style format. Please provide a word count at the end of the paper. I am glad to review outlines and drafts with students, although I do not edit them. If you do plan to use the UWaterloo libraries in person, please check the library website as their protocols for picking up books may change over the course of the semester.

7. Final Take-Home Exam – **due in Dropbox on Dec 15th- 20%** - This will consist of essay questions that I will distribute ahead of time.

Late Assignment Policy:

Assignments submitted late with no excuse will lose 2% per day late. If you have a health issue or an emergency, please let me know as soon as possible. Please note that I do not accept anything after **Dec 22nd, 2021**.

Required Reading Materials:

1) Course readings are posted on LEARN. Occasionally I will also post optional readings that students might find to be interesting and relevant.

Schedule (readings are posted on LEARN)

Week	Date	Online Class Topic	Readings and Module Review Due Prior to Class	Assignment
1	Sept 8	Introductions; Introduction to the Course	No reading required	Review the syllabus and ask any questions on the "Ask the Instructor" Discussion Forum
2	Sept 15	Bring an item of dress (clothing, jewellery, tattoo, etc ...) that is important to you to our online class (or be prepared to describe it if you do not have it with you) Why is it important to you? Some Theoretical Questions	Eco, "Lumbar Thought"; Entwistle, "Fashion and the Fleshly Body: Dress as Embodied Practice." Review Week 2 course module	Possible Discussion Board Post by Friday, Sept 17 th
3	Sept 21	Dress and Religion in Antiquity	Batten, "Clothing and Adornment"; Daniel-Hughes, "Belief"; Harlow and Lovén, "Religion and Ritualized Belief" Review Week 3 Module	Possible Discussion Post By Friday, Sept 24 th
4	Sept 29	The Greek Mysteries	"The Andanian Mysteries" (on LEARN); Gawlinski, "Fashioning Initiates: Dress at the Mysteries"	1st "Best" Discussion Post Due to Dropbox by Oct 1st.

			Review Module for Week 4	
5	Oct 6	Tattoos in the Ancient World Library Research and Writing Research Papers	C.P. Jones, " <i>Stigma: Tattooing and Branding in Graeco-Roman Antiquity</i> "; Mark Gustafson, "The Tattoo in the Later Roman Empire and Beyond" Review Week 5 module	Possible Discussion Post
READING WEEK	Oct 11-15	Reading week	No reading	Work on Take-home; annotated bibliography
6	Oct 20	Ancient Judaism	Read Schlezinger-Katsman, "Clothing"; David Kraemer, "Adornment and Gender in Rabbinic Judaism"; <i>Optional</i> : Chico, "Gender Headwear Traditions in Judaism and Islam" Review Week 6 module	Possible Discussion Post Take Home due to Dropbox by Oct 22nd.
7	Oct 27	Ancient Christianity	Portions of the New Testament (on Learn) Morrison-Atkins, "Worn Stories: (Ad)dressing Wives in 1 Peter" Review Week 7 module	Possible Discussion Board post
8	Nov 3	Late Antiquity	Doerfler, "Coming Apart at the Seams: Cross-dressing, Masculinity, and the Social Body in Late Antiquity"; Davis, "Fashioning a Divine Body: Coptic Christology and Ritualized Dress." <i>Optional</i> : Tommasi, "Cross-Dressing as	Possible Discussion Board post; Annotated Bibliography Due by Nov 5th.

			Discourse and Symbol in Late Antique Religion” Review Week 8 Module	
9	Nov 10	Medieval Europe	Denny-Brown, “Belief”; Hotchkiss, “Transvestism on Trial: The Case of Jeanne D’Arc”; <i>Optional</i> : Fizzard, “Shoes, Boots, Leggings, and Cloaks: The Augustinian Canons and Dress in Later Medieval Europe” Review Week 9 module	2nd “Best” Discussion Post Due to Dropbox by Nov 12th.
10	Nov 17	Islam	Elias “The Sufi Robe (<i>Khirqqa</i>) as a Vehicle of Spiritual Authority”; Amer, “Understanding Veiling in Islamic Sacred Texts”; Kahf, “From Her Royal Body the Robe was Removed”; <i>Optional</i> : Hume, “Fashioning Faith” Review Week 10 Module	Possible Discussion Board Post
11	Nov 24	Contemporary Issues Identity, Human Rights, Religion and Fashion	READ at least 2 of the following articles/essays (others are optional): Miller, “Denim. The Modesty of Clothing and the Immodesty of Religion”; Morin, “Men, Modesty, Religion, and the State: Spaces of Collision”; Neal, “OMG: Authenticity, Parody, and	Possible Discussion Board Post Paper Due in Dropbox by Nov 26th.

			Evangelical Christian Fashion"; Anderson and Griefhagen, "Covering Up on the Prairies: Perceptions of Muslim Identity, Multiculturalism, and Security in Canada"; Epp, "Carrying the Banner of Nonconformity: Ontario Mennonite Women and the Dress Question" Review Week 11 Module	
12	Dec 1	Contemporary Issues Adopting or Leaving Behind Dress Residential Schools in Canada and Dress	Galman, "Un/Covering: Female Religious Converts Learning the Problems and Pragmatics of Physical Observance in the Secular World"; Michelman, "Fashion and Identity of Women Religious" Review Week 12 Module	3rd "Best" Discussion Board Post due by Dec 3rd.
Exam Period		Final Take-Home	Review course reading and prepare final take-home	Final Take-Home Due in Dropbox by Dec 15th.

Cross-listed course

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Announcements

I use the **Announcements** widget on the Course Home page during the term to communicate new or changing information regarding due dates, events, resources, etc., as needed. I might announce that I have posted an article/essay, or other type of material that may be of interest to the class. You are expected to read the announcements on a regular basis.

Discussions

I have provided a General Discussion Forum for class-wide discussions, and an “Ask the Instructor” Discussion Forum. Use the Ask the Instructor Forum when you have a question that may benefit the whole class. Also, check this forum to see if your question has already been answered before reaching out to your instructor.

Discussions can be accessed from the Course Home page by clicking Connect and then Discussions on the course navigation bar.

Contact Us

Who and Why	Contact Details
<p>Instructor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)• Questions of a personal nature	<p>Post your course-related questions to the Ask the Instructor discussion topic*. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.</p> <p>Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor.</p> <p><i>Instructor: Alicia Batten abatten@uwaterloo.ca</i></p> <p><i>I check email and the Ask the Instructor discussion topic* frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24 hours, Monday to Friday. When emailing me, please indicate the course code in the subject line.</i></p> <p>*Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking Connect and then Discussions on the course navigation bar above.</p>

Who and Why	Contact Details
<p>Technical Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN 	<p>learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca</p> <p>Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.</p> <p>Technical support is available during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).</p> <p>LEARN Help Student Documentation</p>
<p>Student Resources</p>	<p>Student Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic advice • Student success • WatCards • Library services and more

Library

[Library COVID-19: Updates on library services and operations.](#)

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Check the [Office of Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student](#)

[Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities

The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) at the University of Waterloo offers all sorts of writing and communication services freely to students. They have virtual services, assignment planners and many other services. I encourage you, even if you are a good writer, to use their services as we can all improve our writing.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. We encourage you to seek out mental health supports when they are needed. Please reach out to [Campus Wellness and Counselling Services](#).

We understand that these circumstances can be troubling, and you may need to speak with someone for emotional support. [Good2Talk](#) is a post-secondary student helpline based in Ontario, Canada that is available to all students.

Coronavirus Information

[Coronavirus Information for Students](#)

This resource provides updated information on COVID-19 and guidance for accommodations due to COVID-19.

Academic freedom at the University of Waterloo

[Policy 33, Ethical Behaviour](#) states, as one of its general principles (Section 1), "The University supports academic freedom for all members of the University community. Academic freedom carries with it the duty to use that freedom in a manner consistent with the scholarly obligation to base teaching and research on an honest and ethical quest for knowledge. In the context of this policy, 'academic freedom' refers to academic activities, including teaching and scholarship, as is articulated in the principles set out in the Memorandum of Agreement between the FAUW and the University of Waterloo, 1998 (Article 6). The academic environment which fosters free debate may from time to time include the presentation or discussion of unpopular opinions or controversial material. Such material shall be dealt with as openly, respectfully and sensitively as possible." This definition is repeated in Policies 70 and 71, and in the Memorandum of Agreement, Section 6.