




Course Schedule

Important: **ALL TIMES EASTERN** - Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Course Outline for details

Week	Module	Readings and Other Assigned Material	Activities and Assignments	End/Due Date	Weight (%)
Week 1	Module 1: Defining Religion	Read Chapter 1 (pages 1-17) of your textbook	Introduce Yourself	Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 11:59 PM	Ungraded
		Religious References on the Definition of Religion  Insider and Outsider: An Anthropological Perspective  from The Religious Studies Project	Module 1 Quiz	Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 11:59 PM	approx. 2% (Best 10 of 11 Module Quizzes will count towards your final grade)
	Module 2: Philosophical	Read Chapter 2 (pages 18-42) of your textbook	Module 2 Assignment	Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 11:59 PM	12% (Complete 4 of 8 Module Assignments)
		Read this quick overview by Austin Cline from 'Learn Religions' on Aristotle on Politics and Religion  , to highlight Aristotelian thought, here, somewhat cynically, on religion and			

Week 2 [Approaches and Traditional Perspectives](#)

politics.

Read Oishimaya Sen Nag's [What is Religious Fundamentalism](#) from a world religions perspective.

Read [Yes, Science is for the Religious, Too](#)

[Module 2 Quiz](#)

Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 11:59 PM

approx. 2%

Read [What is Philosophy of Religion?](#)

Week 3 [Module 3: Anthropological Approaches](#)

Read pages 48-66 of your textbook.

[Module 3 Assignment](#)

Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 11:59 PM

12%

[Module 3 Quiz](#)

Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 11:59 PM

approx. 2%

Individual Profiles

Groups for your

[Documentary Assignment](#)

will be

created by

Tech Support

Check after Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 4:30 PM

Watch What Do You Believe Now?

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Submit Part 1: Individual

15%

Week 4	Module 4: Documentary Assignment	Watch What Do You Believe Now?	Profiles		
			Post Part 2: Your initial discussion post in the Documentary Assignment Discussion	Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 11:59 PM	contributes to 5%
			Complete Part 2: Your participation in the Documentary Assignment Discussion	Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 11:59 PM	contributes to 5%
			Submit Part 3: Synthesis & Reflection		10%


Week 5	Module 5: Sociological, Political and Economic Approaches	Read pages 66-73 of your textbook. You will be watching portions of this 11:06 mins video " Religion: Crash Course Sociology #39 a number of times throughout the module.	Module 5 Assignment	Monday, October 16, 2023 at 11:59 PM	12%
			Module 5 Quiz	Monday, October 16, 2023 at 11:59 PM	approx. 2%

Reading Week (Saturday, October 7, 2023 to Sunday, October 15, 2023)

Week 6	Module 6: Phenomenological Approaches	Read pages 74 to 83 in your textbook	Module 6 Quiz	Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 11:59 PM	approx. 2%
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Read pages 83-103 in your

textbook.

Listen to the first 3:40 minutes of this podcast, [Psychological Approaches to the Study of Religion](#)  by Professor Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, where he gives a good introduction to what the psychology of religion is not, and, what the study of religion is, from a psychological perspective, as well as what it offers students or adherents.

[Module 7
Assignment](#)


Sunday,
October 29,
2023 at
11:59 PM **12%**

Week 7 [Module 7:
Psychological
Approaches](#)

[Module 7
Quiz](#)

Sunday,
October 29,
2023 at
11:59 PM **approx. 2%**

Read pages 104-119 in your textbook.


Read [Feminist Theory in Sociology](#)  to understand important terms and concepts that will be utilized throughout the course, including Gender Differences, Gender Inequality, Gender Oppression, Structural Oppression in order to understand notions such as discrimination and exclusion (in religion) on the basis of sex and gender, women's

[Module 8
Assignment](#)

Sunday,
November
5, 2023 at
11:59 PM **12%**

objectification, power and oppression, gender roles and stereotypes.


Week 8 [Module 8: Feminist Approaches](#) Read [Fourth wave feminism and how social media shapes our protests](#) .

Watch at least until 7:02 mins of this video, [Women and Religion](#)  (41:52 mins total) from The Agenda, which consists of a panel of scholars and an activist from across Canada (including Professor Jakobsh) discussing the spectrum of women's positions in religion, including within Hinduism, Christianity, Islam and Sikhism.

[Module 8 Quiz](#)

Sunday,
November
5, 2023 at
11:59 PM

approx. 2%

Read [How Cultural Nationalism and Women's Rights Locked Horns in the 19th Century](#) .

From the UK: Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip, Michael Keenan and Sarah-Jane Page, [Religion, Youth and Sexuality: Selected Key Findings from a Multi-faith](#)

[Module 9 Assignment](#)

Sunday,
November
12, 2023 at
11:59 PM


12%


[Exploration \(PDF\)](#), pp. 8-14, 22.

Globe and Mail Opinion

Panel: [Sex and religion - an uneasy embrace](#).

Week 9
[Module 9: Religion, the Body, Sexuality and Sexual Orientation](#)


[Women From Three Faith Communities Share How Their Long Hair and Spirituality Are Connected](#) 

From Canada: Pamela Dickey Young and Heather Shipley [Religion, Gender and Sexuality Among Youth in Canada: Summary and Selected Findings](#) , pp. 14-22.

[Module 9 Quiz](#)

Sunday,
November
12, 2023 at
11:59 PM

approx. 2%


Read Nancy Ammerman's "[Lived religion as an emerging field: an assessment of its contours and frontiers](#) .

[Module 10 Assignment](#)

Sunday,
November
19, 2023 at
11:59 PM

12%

Week 10
[Module 10: Lived Religion](#)

Watch the [Lived Religion and Spirituality in 2019](#) ,

focusing mainly on









Professors Ammerman and White from Harvard Divinity School.

[Module 10 Quiz](#)

Sunday,
November
19, 2023 at
11:59 PM

approx. 2%

[Calligraphy in Islamic Art](#) 

Week 11	Module 11: Religion and Art, Part 1 - Christian and Islamic Art	<p>from the The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.</p> <p>Geometric Patterns in Islamic Art  from the The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.</p>	<p>Module 11 Assignment</p>	<p>Sunday, November 26, 2023 at 11:59 PM</p>	<p>12%</p>
		<p>Introduction to mosque architecture </p> <p>The story of Canada's first mosque  (video) in Edmonton from Historica Canada.</p>	<p>Module 11 Quiz</p>	<p>Sunday, November 26, 2023 at 11:59 PM</p>	<p>approx. 2%</p>
Week 12	Module 12: Religion and Art, Part 2 - Hindu and Buddhist Art, Asia	<p>A Point of View: The sacred and sensuous in Indian </p> <p>From the Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art, read the Gallery Guide: Understanding South Asian Art </p>	<p>Module 12 Quiz</p>	<p>Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 11:59 PM</p>	<p>approx. 2%</p>
		<p>Read Vidya Dehejia's brief essay, Hinduism and Hindu Art  from The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City</p> <p>Rangoli: The Painted Prayers of India </p> <p>Buddhist Art: History, Symbolism and Notable Examples </p>			

[The Stupa](#) 

Reynolds, G. (2009). 7
Japanese Aesthetic
Principles to Change Your
Thinking. [Presentation Zen](#)



There is no final examination for this course

Contact Information

Announcements

You are expected to check **Announcements** on the **Course Home** page on a regular basis. To ensure you are viewing the complete list of announcements, you may need to click **Show All Announcements**.

Discussions

Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar above. A [General Discussion](#) topic has also been made available to allow you to communicate with your peers in this course. Your instructor may drop in at this discussion topic.

Contact Us

Who and Why

Contact Details

Post your course-related questions to the [Ask the Instructor](#) discussion topic. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.

Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor or your TA.

Instructor and TA

- Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)
- Questions of a personal nature



Your instructor checks email and the **Ask the Instructor** discussion

topic frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.

learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca 

Technical Support,
Centre for Extended Learning

- Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

Technical support is available during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).

[IST Knowledge Base: For Students](#) 

[Student Resources](#) 

Learner Support Services,
Centre for Extended Learning

- General inquiries
- Examination information

extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca 

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

Course Description

Societies are in a time of flux and change - so too religions. No matter one's worldview, religion offers a window into societal changes. How one studies religion matters. This course addresses complex issues such as violence, religious experience, ritual, and gender within the context of methods in the study of religion.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Describe the traditional approaches to the study of religion;
- Recognize that there are numerous and diverse ways beyond traditional approaches to the study of religion;
- Describe the concept of lived religion;
- Explain how the body, sexuality, and sexual orientation are connected to religion, and
- Explain how one can approach the study of religion through art and architecture.

This online course was developed by Doris Jakobsh, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended Learning.

About the Course Author/Instructor

Course Author/Instructor — Doris Jakobsh

Background

Doris R. Jakobsh is a Professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Waterloo. She received her academic training at the University of Waterloo, Harvard University, and the University of British Columbia. Professor Jakobsh has written and edited numerous books and has also published individual articles and chapters in journals and books. She has also published individual articles and chapters in journals and books. Her main area of specialization focuses on gender construction within the Sikh tradition. Professor Jakobsh has lived and traveled extensively in Europe and Asia.



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Materials and Resources

Textbook


Required

1. Rodrigues, H. & Harding, J. S. (2009). *Introduction to the Study of Religion*. Routledge.

Options for textbook access include:

- A free e-text version of this text is available from the UW library catalogue.
- Digital e-version may be purchased at [Vital Source](#) .
- Hard copies may be purchased through the W Store. Details about how to order textbooks through the W Store are shown below.

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [W Store | Course Materials + Supplies](#) .

For your convenience, you can compile a list of required and optional course materials through [BookLook](#)  using your Quest userID and password. If you are having difficulties ordering online and wish to call the Waterloo Bookstore, their phone number is +1 519-888-4673 or toll-free at +1 866-330-7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Resources

- Library services for [Co-op students on work term and students taking courses online](#) 

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Introduce Yourself	Ungraded
Module Assignments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12% each• Students choose which 4 of 8 module assignments to submit	48%
Documentary Assignment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual Profiles (15%)• Participation in documentary discussion (5%)• Synthesis and reflection (10%)	30%
Module Quizzes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly quizzes worth approx. 2% each• Students must complete 10 of the 11 quizzes (lowest quiz mark will be dropped)	22%
TOTAL	100%

Official Grades

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#) .

Course Policies

Course Policies

Late Policy

Please complete and submit your assignment by the due date listed in the [Course Schedule](#). Late assignments will be docked 0.5 marks per day, for up to five business days, when assignments will no longer be accepted. Further, students should be aware that all submissions to any Dropbox are timestamped. Therefore, regardless of the Dropbox that the assignment has been submitted to, it will be considered late if the timestamp is after the due date.

There are no make-up assignments for late or missed assignments in this course.

Students who require an extension must speak to the instructor **before** an assignment is due and provide a rationale for the extension. The instructor reserves the right to grant or not grant the extension. Should a student miss an assignment, a medical note or verifiable information must be provided. Please see the [University Policies](#) page for more information on Submission Times and Accommodation Due to Illness

University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#) .

Short-Term Absences

Review the University of Waterloo's [Accommodations](#) policy for more details.

Additionally, undergraduate students have the option to self-declare a short-term absence during the formal lecture period by following the [Undergraduate student short-term absences](#) process outlined by the Registrar's Office.

Please follow the instructions above and contact your instructor for applicable accommodations.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Undergraduate Academic Integrity Module](#) and graduate students should see the [Graduate Academic Integrity Module](#) website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which style to use for an assignment, please confirm with your instructor or TA.

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#) .

Turnitin

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

[Turnitin® at Waterloo](#)

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes [academic integrity](#) to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. 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 instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#) . For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#) .

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](#) .

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their 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.

Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 46 - Information Management](#) , Appendix A - Access to and Release of Student Information, the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo LEARN are unofficial.

AccessAbility Services

[AccessAbility Services](#) , located in Needles Hall, 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 accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Accessibility Statement

The Centre for Extended Learning strives to meet the needs of all our online learners. Our ongoing efforts to become aligned with the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\)](#) are guided by University of Waterloo accessibility [Legislation](#) and policy and the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](#) . The majority of our online courses are currently delivered via the Desire2Learn Learning Environment. Learn more about [Accessibility at D2L](#) .

Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of Waterloo Computing and Network Resources](#) .

Copyright Information

UWaterloo's Web Pages

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[Credits and Copyright \(/d2l/common/dialogs/quickLink/quickLink.d2l?ou=930232&type=content&rcode=uWaterloo-2849290\)](#)