

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Political Science
Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective (4202F/9736A)
2012**

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Office Hours:
Wednesdays 10 am- 12m

Course Objective

This course studies the interaction between religion and politics in the Americas. More specifically, it analyzes and compares the relationship between dominant ideas of God and the political cultures of Canada, the United States and several Latin American countries.

Prerequisites/Antirequisites

Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for an appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.
Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science

Important Notice

Because of the sensitive nature of the topics covered in this course, it is imperative that we respect both those who have religious beliefs and those who do not. However, you should keep in mind that this course has been designed to critically examine the interaction between religion and politics. Religious organizations and values will be analyzed from a political and critical perspective. If you are uncomfortable having your own religious views examined, you may want to reconsider taking this course.

Student Assessment

The overall grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Participation.....	20%
Essay.....	50%
Book review (s).....	30%

Participation

Students in this course will be expected to master the assigned readings and to actively participate in the discussions that will take place every week. Moreover, students will be required to post a short critical assessment of the assigned readings on the *Religion and Politics Bulletin Board* that has been created for this purpose. Critical assessments must be posted each week by Friday at noon.

One or two students will formally introduce the assigned readings each week having read the other students' critical comments on the bulletin board. To visit the *Religion and Politics Bulletin Board* on the web, go to:

<http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/religionandpoliticsuwo>

Essay

A research essay (15-17) double-spaced page will be due on December 3 **IN CLASS**. Guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor in class.

Book Review (s):

Select one of the following books:

Richard Gwyn, Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald: His Life, Our Times. Toronto: Random House, 2011.

Joe Bageant, Deer Hunting with Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War. New York: Random House, 2007.

Francisco Goldman, The Art of Political Murder: Who Killed the Bishop? New York: Grove Press, 2007.

In addition, graduate students will review one of the following books:

Michel Allen Gillespie, The Theological Origins of Modernity. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2008.

Jeremy Waldron, God, Locke, and Equality: Christian Foundations in Locke's Political Thought. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Jean Bethke Elshtain, Sovereignty, God, State and Self. New York: Basic Books, 2008.

A. P. Martinich, The Two Gods of Leviathan: Thomas Hobbes on Religion and Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

The first review (undergraduate and graduate students) is due on October 15, 2012 **IN CLASS**. Book reviews should not exceed 8 double-spaced pages. Guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor in class. The second book review (for graduate students only) is due on November 19, 2012.

Note: A penalty of 5% per day (including week-ends and holidays) will be imposed on any written assignment that is not handed in on time, **IN CLASS**.

Books Recommended for Purchase:

Reginald W. Bibby, Beyond the Gods and Back: Religion's Demise and Rise and Why It Matters. Project Canada Books, 2011.

Frank Lambert, Religion in American Politics: A Short History. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2008.

Jung Mo Sung, Desire, Market and Religion. London: SCM Press, 2007.

(Graduate) Statement of Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

September 10 Introduction: Ideas of God, Human Security and Political Culture

September 17: Ideas of God in History

Genevieve Lloyd, Providence Lost. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2008, 279-332.

Charles Taylor, A Secular Age. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007, 221-269.

September 24: Human Security and Ideas of God

Pippa Norris, Ronald Inglehart, Sacred and Secular: Religion and Politics Worldwide. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004, 3-79.

James K. Wellman and Clark B. Lombardi, eds. Religion and Human Security: A Global Perspective. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2012, 1-29.

October 1: God, Religion, and your Brain

Justin L. Barrett, Cognitive Science, Religion, and Theology: From Human Minds to Divine Minds. West Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Press, 2011, 3-57.

Edward Slingerland, "Who's Afraid of Reductionism? The Study of Religion in the Age of Cognitive Science", Journal of the American Academy of Religion, June 2008, Vol. 76, No. 2, pp. 375-411

October 15: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of Canada (I)

Bibby, 1-135.

Pierre Anctil, "Reasonable Accommodation in the Canadian Legal Context: A Mechanism for Managing Diversity or a Source of Tensions?" in Howard Adelman and Pierre Anctil, eds., Religion, Culture, and the State: Reflections on the Bouchard-Taylor Report. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011, 16-36.

October 22: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of Canada (II)

Bibby, 136-216

Howard Adelman, "Monoculturalism versus Interculturalism in a Multicultural World", in Howard Adelman and Pierre Anctil, eds., Religion, Culture, and the

State: Reflections on the Bouchard-Taylor Report. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011, 37-57.

John Geddes, "What Canadians think of Sikhs, Jews, Christians, Muslims...". MACLEAN'S, 2009, 20-24.

October 29: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of the United States (I)

Lambert, 1-103

Joe Bageant, Deer Hunting with Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War. New York: Random House, 2007, 161-193.

November 5: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of the United States (II)

Lambert, 104-250

Randall Balmer, God in the White House: A History. New York: Harper One, 2008, 221-3.

November 12: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of Latin America (I)

Anthony Gill, Rendering unto Caesar: The Catholic Church and the State in Latin America. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1998, 17-46.

Michael Löwy, The War of Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America. New York: Verso 1996, 32-80.

Sung, 129-154.

November 19: Human Security, Ideas of God, and the Political Culture of Latin America (II)

Sung, 1-75; 100-128

Andrés Pérez-Baltodano, "Between God and the State: Globalization and Human Insecurity in Latin America", in Manuela Nilsson, Jan Gustafsson, eds., Latin American Responses to Globalization in the 21st Century. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, 115-133.

November 26: Globalization, Religion, and Insecurity

Dominique Moisi, The Geopolitics of Emotion: How Cultures of Fear, Humiliation and Hope are Reshaping the World. New York: Anchor Books, 9-30; 56-89.

David Wessels, "Religion and Globalization" in Jeffrey Haynes, ed., Routledge Handbook of Religion and Politics. New York: Routledge, 2009, 323-339.

Sung, 76-99

December 3: Conclusions

Religion and Politics in the XXI Century: A Debate

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

Mental Health at Western: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.