



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2018

EN3055 (A3): Literature and Religion – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Craig Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2894
OFFICE: C308 **E-MAIL:** CrSmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 1:00-2:00, Friday 10:00-11:00, or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will address some closely linked topics in literature and religion mainly in the biblical tradition. Students will read selected biblical texts and works of literature from different historical periods. The focus will be on a wide variety of concepts such as self-knowledge, imagination and nature.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Six credits of junior English

REQUIRED TEXTS/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Findley, Timothy – *Not Wanted on the Voyage*

Crace, Jim – *Quarantine*

Ricci, Nino – *Testament*

Endo, Shusaku – *Silence*

Other readings are posted to Moodle. It is your responsibility to make sure that you stay up-to-date with the readings and that you are able to access the materials in advance of the dates on which they are to be discussed.

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class quizzes, oral presentations, and written assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The aims of this course are to consider the ways in which literature and religion converge. In doing so, we will explore what happens when the theological comes into contact with the aesthetic. Reading works from a range of

international locations from a broad selection of genres, this course seeks to determine how literature and religion complement and compete with each other, how private and particular experiences of faith are transformed through literary expression, and how literature draws from a shared cultural storehouse of religious texts to address both immediate concerns and persistent, timeless questions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- Familiarity with and the ability to use terms pertinent to the discussion of literature and religion
- An understanding of intertextual practice and theory, particularly in relation to the biblical tradition
- The ability to discuss literature effectively in oral presentations
- The ability to write coherent, well-developed analytical essays

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, Augustana, UL, King's

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Participation – 10%

Reading Quizzes – 5%

Short paper – 15%

Longer Paper – 25%

Presentations (two in total) – 15%

Final exam – 30%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1: Introduction to the course; The Literature of Faith I: Apprehensions of Divinity

Weeks 2-3: The Literature of Faith II: Divine Justice and Theodicy

Weeks 4-6: The Literatures of Angst, Doubt, and Disbelief

READING WEEK: FEBRUARY 19-23 – NO CLASSES

Weeks 7-9: Historicizing Christ

Weeks 10-14: Literature and religion around the Globe

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be submitted directly to me in hard copy form. I will not accept electronic copies. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of theft or loss, a duplicate copy must be available upon request.
2. Written assignments are to be submitted on time. Late assignments will incur a penalty of **5%** per day, with weekends counting as one day.
3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
4. Students are expected to attend *all* classes. Unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student's grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student's final mark.
5. Students are required to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Cellphones are to be turned off and kept out of sight during class time. Students who text while the instructor and/or other students are speaking will lose marks for participation. Similarly, students must display good classroom etiquette at all times. This includes coming to class on time, not packing up to leave before the instructor has indicated that class is over, and not engaging in discussions with others while the instructor or other students are speaking. The unwillingness to abide by these expectations will result in a student receiving a failing grade for participation.

7. The final exam for this class will be scheduled by the registrar and will take place in April. The exam **will not** be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required for any student wishing to write the final exam on an alternate date.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.