**RELIGION DEPARTMENT**

**2013-2014 SPRING**

**COURSE OFFERINGS**

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**Graduate Program**

**REL 504/CLA 516 */AUD**

*Studies in Greco-Roman Religions - From Jesus to Constantine: The Origins of Christianity*

*Elaine H. Pagels*

*T 1:30-4:20*

We read basic primary sources, both Greek and Latin, that offer evidence for the origins of Christianity. To allow for breadth of reading, one may read in English, with reference to the original texts as necessary.

**REL 505 */AUD**

*Studies in the Religions of the Americas - Religion, Race, & Gender in Latin America*

*Jessica Delgado*

*Th 10:00-1:00PM*

This course explores the intersections of religion, race, and gender in the history and historiography of Latin America. It consists of three chronological units looking at: the formative and "baroque" eras of the colonial period, (1500-1720); late colonial Bourbon reforms through the early national period, (1750-1865); and the triumph of liberalism through the first half of the 20th century, (1870-1950). Seminar participants choose to write either a historiographic paper focusing on the scholarly literature surrounding a particular theme, topic, or time period or a research paper.

**REL 507 */AUD**

*Studies in Religion and Philosophy - Augustine and Political Augustinianisms*

*Eric S. Gregory*

*W 1:30-4:20*

Recent events and 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 or wrestle with his legacy for their constructive purposes.

**REL 513 */AUD**

*Studies in Ancient Judaism - The Study of Torah in Ancient Judaism*

*Moulie Vidas*

*Th 1:30-4:20*

This course examines the representation of Torah study in ancient Jewish texts, focusing on historical developments in the construction of Torah, wisdom, and intellectual activity; on the relationship between these concepts and the structure of Jewish communities and texts; and on the extent to which the practice of and discourse on Torah study was informed by other intellectual traditions of the ancient world, such as the Greco-Roman tradition and its concept of paideia.

**REL 519 */AUD**

*Religion and Critical Thought Workshop*

*Jeffrey L. Stout*

*F 10:00-12:00*

A weekly, year-long workshop 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 520/NES 520
Approaches to Islamic Intellectual History
Muhammad Q. Zaman
W 1:30-4:20
This seminar provides a broad-ranging introduction to and assessment of approaches to pre-modern and modern Islamic intellectual history. How, and with what success, have scholars tried to place particular developments in their varied intellectual, political, socio-economic, and cultural contexts? What constitutes the relevant context and how should one try to mediate among competing ways of accounting for particular intellectual developments? What assumptions - historiographical, sociological, normative - have guided recent work and how do they compare with an earlier generation’s scholarship? These are among the questions we address.

REL 522 */AUD
Religion and Culture Workshop
Jessica Delgado
T 12:00-1:20
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
Religion in the Americas Workshop
Wallace D. Best
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
Elaine H. Pagels
W 1:30-2:50
A weekly, year-long workshop providing students in the Religions of Late Antiquity with the opportunity to present their current research for discussion.

REL 533 */AUD
Readings in Japanese Religions - The Buddhist Tradition
Jacqueline I. Stone
W 1:30-4:20
In this seminar we read representative examples of Buddhist texts in Japanese and kanbun from the Heian through modern periods. Readings are drawn from multiple genres and may include doctrinal writings, ritual manuals, didactic tales, sermons, and personal letters. Supplementary readings in Japanese and English scholarship may be assigned. To some extent, readings may be chosen to accommodate participants’ research interests. Use of bibliographic and reference sources is also introduced.

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