

Session A
June 20 - July 29, 2011

2011

Session B
August 1 - September 9, 2011

Religion 160: Religion, Film, and Media

Palestinian-Israeli Conflict in Film

Instructor: Dr. Sami Chetrit

Section 1: Tues/Thurs, 11:15am – 1:20pm

Section 2: Tues/Thurs, 3:15pm – 5:20pm

**TWO
SECTIONS!!**

This course introduces the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as it's been reflected through documentary films in the last decade, mostly by Israeli filmmakers. Each class meeting (2 hours) will consist of watching a 50 to 90 minute documentary film, followed by class discussion, which will be informed by students' responses to the films, related readings (one textbook and some articles), and critical questions regarding the official narratives of the conflict.

Religion 140: Variable Topics

Religion in Los Angeles

Instructor: Dr. Patrick Polk

Mon/Wed 11:15am – 1:20pm

This class introduces students to the varieties of religious experience in Los Angeles and its environs. Presentations, required readings, and site visits will shape the engagement of course participants with selected faiths and spiritual practices throughout Southern California and provide a deeper understanding of the myriad ways that the sacred is made manifest and encountered in the region. Foundational academic orientations within the study of religion (anthropological, historical, psychological, sociological, etc.) will be utilized as a framework for examining and interpreting the City of Angels' almost unparalleled religious diversity. Recognizing that spiritual traditions are a crucial reflection of the region's ever changing demographics, emphasis will be placed on the role of ethnicity, gender, nationality, and race in the shaping of the religious landscape.

Religion 160: Religion, Film, and Media

Religion and Cinema in Various Cultures

Instructor: Dr. Angela Aleiss

Tues/Thurs 5:30 – 9:00 pm

This course will look at religion in film from a variety of historical and thematic perspectives. We will examine how the cultural phenomenon of religion is represented in film through visual and narrative components and how the power of cinematic images can define our own religious sensibility. A selection of movies highlighting Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Native American spirituality as well as new religious movements will be drawn from European, Japanese, Canadian, and American cinema. Screenings twice a week, readings, and discussions.

Religion 140: Variable Topics

Islam and Christianity: From Conflict to Conversation

Instructor: Benjamin Dale Delee

Mon/Wed 10:45am – 12:45pm

This course will explore "flash-points" in the historical encounter between Islam and Christianity, focusing on the initial Islamic conquests, the Crusades, the expansion of Islam under the Turks, colonialism, and the September 11 attacks. These events will be examined through both primary and secondary sources, highlighting how modern historians understand them as historical events and how they are represented and remembered by different communities as religiously meaningful. We will also study how these historical events remain alive in contemporary religious narratives and in the arena of inter-religious dialogue and conflict.