

## Humanities 9-01 & 02 GREEN SHEET / SYLLABUS

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susan Cafarelli Burke

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Office Hours: Wed 12:30 - 1:30 PM or by appointment to meet in F11M

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will use a variety of phenomenological methods to explore the religious dimensions of human life; religious language, attitudes, images, metaphors, symbols, myths, rituals, and Sacred Scriptures are investigated to provide an appreciative understanding of the different ways that men and women throughout history, different cultures, and different world religions have expressed and lived religious faith.

### **CONTENT:**

Lectures, discussions, readings, group exercises, videos, student presentations, and exams will focus on the existential meaning of religious expressions in Primal, Native American, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, from the perspectives of six dimensions of religion: experience, myth, ritual, doctrine, ethics, social.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- 1) Eliade, Mircea. The Sacred and the Profane. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1959.
- 2) Ludwig, Theodore M.. The Sacred Paths: Understanding the Religions of the World. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2001.
- 3) Website: <http://faculty.deanza.fhda.edu/burkesusan> (Various files to print and view).

### **PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE:**

**Participation (60 points)** is essential as this class has partner and group discussion almost every day. Therefore, each student is expected to attend every class, take notes in logical order, and participate in group discussions and activities. You are awarded 60 points for your participation and are allowed to miss two class sessions with no penalty but after that you will be docked 10 points for each class you miss. Missing more than 8 class sessions will automatically lower your grade by one point and/or cause you to be dismissed from the class.

### **EVALUATION:**

#### **Ritual Presentation: (60 points)**

Each student will work within an assigned group and prepare a group 15 minute presentation on the dimensions of a religious ritual discussed and assigned in class. The ritual will be presented during the specific week listed on this syllabus. Grades will be based on student as well as instructor evaluation. Detailed instructions are available online at the instructor class website and will also be discussed in class.

**Homework Assignments (70 pts):** Mindmaps and illustrations can be hand printed, all other homework is to be word processed/typed and double spaced. See listed below for topics and due dates.

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#### **System of the world Analysis due Thurs, Sept 30 (12 pts)**

Read and reflect on the first three chapters of Eliade's The Sacred and Profane, Pretend that you want to make your living space into a cosmic dwelling and therefore sacred space like that of traditional societies. Detail for me: **a)** How your dwelling relates to each of the four parts of the "system of the world" described by Eliade, discussed in class, and detailed in the Lecture Note Extras: Dimensions of Religion pdf file on the web site. **b)** Diagram the layout of your structure with labels.

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**Hero's Journey Homework Due Thurs, Oct 7\_(14 pts)**

1. Watch ONE of the following movies:

Finding Nemo

Harry Potter (any version)

A Beautiful Mind

Star Wars: "A New Hope" (fourth episode but first movie made)

Mulan

Matrix (first movie, warning: this movie is violent)

Lord of the Rings (trilogy)

Gandhi

2. Identify and explain in the movie each of the seven stages in the hero's journey in a one to two page paper. Put the title of your movie at the top of the page. Number each stage and then talk about where and how that stage appears in the movie.

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**Native American Homework Due Mon, Oct 18 (16 pts)**

Read Chapter 3 in The Sacred Paths and create a mind map complete with drawings and a summary paragraph that details ONE of the following myths or ceremony:

A) The Navajo Emergence Myth

B) Iroquois Earth Diver and the Twins

C) the Navajo Blessing Way ceremony

D) Vision Quest

E) Apache Puberty Ceremony for Females

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**Hinduism/Buddhism Homework Due Mon, Nov 1 (16 pts)**

Create a mind map in which you explain the concepts below by comparing Hinduism with Buddhism.

- atman, and anatman
- Brahman and Nirvana
- Hindu Gods, Avatars and Buddhist Bodhisattvas
- Paths of Transformation for each

Include summary paragraph and images

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**Judaism/Christianity/ Islam Homework Due Mon, Nov 29 (12 pts)**

Write a two page essay (double spaced and typed) that contrasts each of the Christian, Jewish, and Islamic theological ideas about the following:

God as Immanent

Paths of Transformation

**Exams: (300 points)** 2 midterms and a final worth 100 points each. The tests will cover assigned reading, videos, and class lectures. The tests will be composed of multiple choice, true and false and may have essays.

Grades: A =100 - 90%, B =89 - 79%, C= 78 - 65, D =64 – 54%, F= 53% and below.

## CLASS SCHEDULE, READING ASSIGNMENTS, RITUAL PRESENTATIONS

WEEK	Week Of	TOPICS	READING ASSIGNMENTS & RITUAL DATES
1 <sup>st</sup> week	Mon <b>Sept 20</b>	Six Dimensions of Religion Origins of Religion	Ch 1 & 2: <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, Pp. 3-23
2 <sup>nd</sup> week	Mon <b>Sept 27</b>	Sacred Space, Sacred Time, Dimensional Triangle,	Ch 1 & 2: "Sacred Space," <u>The Sacred and the Profane</u> , Mircea Elide, pp. 8-94.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week	Mon <b>Oct 4</b>	Meaning of Myth Sacred Symbols and Initiations	Ch 3 & 4: <u>The Sacred and the Profane</u> , Mircea Elide, pp. 95-200.
4 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Oct 11</b>	<b>Midterm One</b> Indigenous People Native American Religions	Ch. 2 & 3: Indigenous/Native American, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, Pp. 31-61(parts on Native Americans only)
5 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Oct 18</b>	Native American/ Hinduism	Ch 4, 5, 6: Hinduism, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 64-75, 84-89, <b>Native American Sun Dance: ritual presentation, Thurs, Oct 22</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Oct 25</b>	Hinduism/Buddhism	Ch 4, 5, 6: Hinduism, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 89-98 101-104. <b>Hindu Divali: ritual presentation: Thurs, Oct 28</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Nov 1</b>	Buddhism	Ch 7, 8, 9: Buddhism, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 116-123, 123-126, 133-143, 156-157. <b>Buddhist Kalachakra: ritual presentation: Thurs, Nov 4</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Nov 8</b>	<b>Midterm Two</b> Jewish sacred history	Ch 20, 21, 22:: Judaism, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, Pp. 330-341, 350-360, 362-363.
9 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Nov 15</b>	Judaism Christianity	Ch 23, 24, 25: Christianity, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 376-385, 401-412, 413-414 <b>Jewish Passover : ritual presentation, Tues, Nov 16</b> <b>Eucharistic Celebration: ritual presentation, Thurs, Nov 18.</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Nov 22</b>	Christian philosophy  <b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	Ch 26, Islam, <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 428-436
11 <sup>th</sup> week	Mon <b>Nov 29</b>	Islamic philosophy/ Ritual	Ch 27, 28: Islam <u>The Sacred Paths</u> , Ludwig, pp. 453-462, 464-468, 471-478. <b>The Muslim Hajj: ritual presentation, Tues, Nov 30</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> week	<b>Dec 6</b>	Review and <b>FINAL EXAMS</b>	<b>FINALS: Humi 9-01: 7:00-9:00 am Tues, Dec 7 Humi 9-02: 9:15-11:15 am Thurs, Dec 9</b>