INSTRUCTOR: Corinna Guerrero  
EMAIL: cguerrero@scu.edu  
OFFICE HRS: Tuesdays/Thursdays 10:30am-11:30am and special exception by appointment.  
OFFICE: Kenna Hall Office #315  

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  

This course is an introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Each week students engage a new set of questions about the formation, history, theology, sacrality, politics, as well as issues of authority and gender concerning the "Abrahamic" traditions. Over the course of the quarter students investigate in a lecture/discussion format the question that our textbook's title raises: What do our neighbors believe? Investigations of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam occurs through primary sacred texts (i.e. TaNaK, Old Testament & New Testament, and Qur’an), secondary readings, and research for community care project. Students are encouraged to develop their understanding of each religion from the standpoint of how that religion sees itself in the world. In the process engaging and investigating the "Abrahamic" traditions students are given the opportunity to question and explore for themselves the role of religion, God, ha-shem, Allah, the deity, the Ultimate in their lives and/or the lives of the world around them.  

Students are required to bring their text books to class every day.  

No prior knowledge or association with the named western religions is necessary for enrollment in this course.  

This course satisfies the Religious Studies 1/Religion, Theology, and Culture 1 requirement.  

CORE CURRICULUM LEARNING OBJECTIVES:  

Students in this course will:  

Objective #1 - Describe and compare the central religious ideas and practices from several traditions or within one, and from two globally distinct regions. (Students will satisfy this objective through class discussion, quizzes, reflection papers, worship group presentation, and final paper.)  

Objective #2 - Use critical approaches to reflect upon their own beliefs and the religious dimensions of human existence. (Students will satisfy this objective)
through class discussion, reflection papers, worship group presentation, self-evaluation, and final paper.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Introduce students to a basic understanding of the central texts, traditions, and practices of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
2. Critically reflect through written, oral, and aural sources upon religious belief and practice as well as what religion discloses about humanity in its quest for the sacred. This will also offer students an opportunity to reflect on (their own) beliefs, religious experiences, and probe how religion functions in their lives and/or in the lives of others.
3. Introduce students to central religious ideas and practices of Judaism, Christianity and Islam through weekly attention paid to their sacred writings (TaNaK, Old Testament and New Testament, and Qur’an). This includes an introduction to contextual and comparative interpretive methodologies.
4. Explore the diversity within each religion, its sacred texts, and its popular religiosity through written, oral, and aural sources.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

5. Additional required texts for reading will be posted on Camino.

REQUIRED ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR COURSE USE:

1. Storify – storify.com
2. AdobeSpark – adobespark.com

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS:

Storify Narrative of Course Journey (35%) Thirty-five percent of the overall grade for this course is determined by the student’s weekly: 1) preparation for class (i.e. completion of reading assignments for the day); 2) attendance in class and meetings with faculty + group work; 3) thoughtful, informed, and/or reflective questions and/or comments about the reading; and 4) Storified weekly personal reflection on the intersection of course material and world via image/social media/events/experience/memory/etc.
• Weekly Storify must include at least 3 components summarizing, drawing connection between, or reflecting upon the week’s work, personal encounter with the material, and the world. See Professor Guerrero’s Intro to Course Storify. Complete and Upload your Storify weekly to Camino by Monday 11:49pm. Satisfies Core Curriculum Objectives #1 & #2.

Quiz (10%) Ten percent of the overall grade is determined by an early term quiz taken online via Camino. The quiz will cover the material prior to the quiz date. It will be an assortment of multiple choice, multiple answer, matching, fill in the blank, short answer, and True/False questions. Satisfies Core Curriculum Objective #1.

Papers (30%) Thirty percent of the overall grade is determined by two papers, one summation and the other reflection. Templates to be given with each paper. Satisfies Core Curriculum Objective #1 & #2.

Community Care Project (25%) Students will be assigned to small groups (4-6 person groups) that are responsible for giving a 20-30 minute group presentation to the class at the end of the quarter. (The size of the group and the length of the presentation are dependent upon size of class enrollment.) The group must establish the project idea by week 4 with Professor approval. Satisfies Core Curriculum Objectives #1 & #2.

Grading Scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59 &amp; BELOW</td>
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Attendance Policy:

Regular on-time attendance is a mandatory expectation for passing the course. Excused absences must be requested in advance of the class session to be missed and require approval from the instructor. 4+ unexcused absences will result in an automatic F grade for the course.

Disability Accommodation Policy:

From Professor: Disability paperwork must be send to the Professor from Disability Services to activate alternative timelines for test taking. Date of paperwork reception will determine the date of alternate timelines. Homework will not be “back dated.”

From University: If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact Disabilities Resources, Benson 216, http://www.scu.edu/disabilities as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you
have already arranged accommodations through Disabilities Resources, please discuss them with me during my office hours.

While I am happy to assist you, I am unable to provide accommodations until I have received verification from Disabilities Resources. The Disabilities Resources office will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assisted technology. (Students with approved accommodations of time-and-a-half should talk with me as soon as possible). Disabilities Resources must be contacted in advance to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations. The Disabilities Resources office would be grateful for advance notice of at least two weeks. For more information you may contact Disabilities Resources at 408-554-4109.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PREGNANCY AND PARENTING

From University: In alignment with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and with the California Education Code, Section 66281.7, Santa Clara University provides reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant, have recently experienced childbirth, and/or have medical needs related to childbirth. Pregnant and parenting students can often arrange accommodations by working directly with their instructors, supervisors, or departments. Alternatively, a pregnant or parenting student experiencing related medical conditions may request accommodations through Disability Resources.

DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT (TITLE IX)

Santa Clara University upholds a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, I encourage you to tell someone promptly. For more information, please consult the University’s Gender-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy at http://bit.ly/2ce1hBb or contact the University's EEO and Title IX Coordinator, Belinda Guthrie, at 408-554-3043, bguthrie@scu.edu. Reports may be submitted online through https://www.scu.edu/osl/report/ or anonymously through Ethicspoint https://www.scu.edu/hr/quick-links/ethicspoint/

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM POLICY:

From University: The Academic Integrity pledge is an expression of the University’s commitment to fostering an understanding of -- and commitment to -- a culture of integrity at Santa Clara University. The Academic Integrity pledge, which applies to all students, states:

I am committed to being a person of integrity. I pledge, as a member of the Santa Clara University community, to abide by and uphold the standards of academic integrity contained in the Student Conduct Code.

Students are expected to uphold the principles of this pledge for all work in this class. For more information about Santa Clara University’s academic integrity pledge and resources about ensuring academic integrity in your work, see www.scu.edu/academic-integrity.
From Professor Guerrero: The study of religion and sacred scriptures/religious literatures are older than the texts themselves. As a result, there are very few genuinely "unique" or "original" ideas. Therefore, it is the expectation that all written, presented, and discussed work as it pertains to this course reference the "chain of thought" the student is utilizing to make her/his point. Being able to articulate your thought from the thoughts of others is at the heart of academic investigation and academic integrity. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course!!!

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS WIKIPEDIA AN APPROPRIATE ACADEMIC SOURCE OF MATERIAL FOR USE IN THIS COURSE.

This course stands by the following definitions of plagiarism as found on the SCU library website: http://libguides.scu.edu/plagiarism.

"A Definition of Plagiarism

1) Dishonest - Taking credit for someone else's work.
2) Stealing - Putting your name on someone else's paper.
3) Cheating - Putting one's name on someone else's phrases.
4) Wrong - Putting one's name on something that's paraphrased.
5) Theft - Taking someone else's idea.
6) Lazy - "Recycling" your old material.
7) Irresponsible - Failure to put a quote in quotations marks, or providing incorrect information about where a source came from.

From Naomi Rockler-Gladen"

For more see - http://libguides.scu.edu/content.php?pid=99468&sid=748332

Lecture and Reading Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topics &amp; Reading Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(C) Camino Readings (G) Greenstein, et al. (ST) Sacred Texts</td>
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<td>(D) Messina-Dysert, et al.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9/19</td>
<td>Lecture/Question- Introduction to course, syllabus, readings, technology. What have you been told about western religion?</td>
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<td>Rdg + Assignment for Th- Greenstein—Chs.1-3.</td>
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<td>o Begin your course Storify. Components to create: 1) parents’ (ir)religious affiliations; 2) any (ir)religious home practices; 3) personal (ir)religious practices; 4) thing(s) no one explained about why the do/practice what they do.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Lecture/Question- What is a canon? Structural Overview of TaNaK, Christian canon...s, and Qur’an. Framing Scriptures.</td>
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Revised 9/20/2017
Revised by Professor Corinna Guerrero
Complete and Upload your Storify Week 1 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.  
(Remember this is a weekly task.)

### Founding Family

2  9/26  **Lecture** - Texts and Sacred Texts. Events, Memory, and Narrativization  
**RDG Assignment for TH** - Focus questions for reading: Where and how do these religions begin? Who is Abraham? What is his religion?  

9/28  **Lecture** - Textual Portrayals and Theological Claims  
**RDG + Assignment for T** - (C) Kaltner “Ishmael Instructs Isaac_Abraham” [87-131].

3  10/3  **Lecture** - Abram/Abrahaam/Ibrahim  
**RDG Assignment for TH** - (C) “The Abrahamic Family” (web articles); (ST) [HB/OT] Genesis 16-17, 20-21; (C) “Tribe, ‘Ominous Beginnings for a Promise of Blessing’”;

10/5  **Lecture** - The Family?  
**RDG + Assignment for T** - (C) “Conflict and Coexistence in Jewish Interpretation” [101-125]; “Russell, ‘Twists and Turns in Paul’s Allegory’”; “Islamic Hagar and Her Family” [149-167].

### Conceptualizing Religion

4  10/10  **Lecture** - Time, People, and Places.  

**Take online QUIZ on Camino. OPENS Tuesday 2pm, CLOSES Thursday at 7am. [All course content up to Tuesday 10/10.]**

10/12  **Lecture/Questions** - Space, Time, and Sacrality.  
**RDG Assignment for T** - (G) chapter 6 [84-100].

5  10/17  **Lecture** - Practices.  
## How are Judaism, Christianity, and Islam monotheistic?

10/19  
**Lecture**- Monolatry, Monotheism, Trinitarian Monotheism.  
- **Summation Essay Prompt Posted**

**RDG Assignment for T**- (G) chapter 5 [68-83]; (C) “Monotheism”, “Monotheism no.2”, “Nicene Creed”, “God and his Attributes” [316-331]; “Monotheism and the religion of Ancient Israel” [21-43].
- **Complete and Upload your Storify Week 5 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.**

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### GROUP COMMUNITY CARE PROJECT APPROVAL DEADLINE.

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6  10/24  
**Lecture**- God and Humanity  

10/26  
**Lecture**- “Get behind me Satan”: Adversary, Devil, or the Evil One?  
**RDG + Assignment for T**- (G) chapter 6 [84-100]; (C) “Satan” [224-228]; “The Tragedy of Iblis (Satan) in the Qur’an” [128-144]. Note—*Genesis is NOT part of the assigned reading. There is no Satan in Genesis.*
- **Complete and Upload your Storify Week 6 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.**
- **Create an Informational Graphic visualizing the relationship between the Deity, humanity, and Satan/Iblis in your assigned religion. Bring to class Tuesday.**

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7  10/31  
**Lecture/Discussion**- Sin and Redemption.  
- **Personal Essay Prompt Posted**

**RDG Assignment for Th 11/2**- Type your 3-5 pages synthesis essay mapping God, humanity, and redemption. Submit Tuesday at beginning of class.

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## What does ‘lived religion’ look like in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam?

11/2  
**Lecture/Discussion**- Intro. to Feminism & Religion  
**RDG Assignment for T** – (D) Faithfully Feminist – [Last Name A-I: Judaism; J-P: Christianity; Q-Z: Islam]
- **Complete and Upload your Storify Week 7 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.**

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8  11/7  
**Lecture**- Faithfully Feminist  
**Writing Assignment for Th 11/9**- Type your personal essay 2-3 pages single-spaced. Bring hardcopy to class Tuesday. Submit Tuesday at beginning of class.

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Revised 9/20/2017  
Revised by Professor Corinna Guerrero
11/9  Lecture- Faithfully Feminist  
RDG ASSIGNMENT FOR T- (G) chapter 7 [101-117], chapter 8 [118-133],  
o  Complete and Upload your Storify Week 8 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.

ASSIGNMENT FOR TH- Prepare report on the state of the project for class.

ASSIGNMENT FOR T- Complete and Upload your Storify Week 9 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.

11/21  Lecture- ACADEMIC HOLIDAY  
ASSIGNMENT FOR TH- Happy Thanksgiving!

11/23  Lecture- ACADEMIC HOLIDAY  
ASSIGNMENT FOR T- Happy Thanksgiving!

11/28  Lecture- Course Review  
ASSIGNMENT DUE WITH FINAL- SELF AND PEER EVALUATIONS

11/30  Lecture- Presentation Workshop  
ASSIGNMENT DUE WITH FINAL- SELF AND PEER EVALUATIONS  
o  Final Storify Update including Week 10 to Camino by Monday 11:49pm.

FINALS WEEK 12/4-12/8   (DATE TO BE DECIDED)

11  8:30AM  STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

12:10PM  STUDENT PRESENTATIONS