Course Information

Semester & Year:	Spring 2022
Course Title:	Religion and the Modern World
Course Prefix & Number:	REL 205
Section Number:	31312
Credit Hours:	3
Start Date:	January 31, 2022
End Date:	May 13, 2022

Course Format

The course format for this course is On Your Time Online so it does not require live sessions. However, this course is NOT self-paced. There are assignments due weekly.

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Brydie L. Andrews
Email:	brydie.andrews@scottsdalecc.edu
	I prefer contacting me via the Messaging feature within Canvas whenever possible. My second choice of communication is email.
Phone:	410-357-1097 (please do not call after 9:30 pm)
Office Location:	No on campus office
Office Hours:	Feel free to contact me through Canvas or by email and we can arrange a time to talk by phone or Zoom.

Course Description

Introduction to the nature and role of religious beliefs and practices in shaping the lives of individuals and societies, with particular attention to the modern world.

Prerequisites

ENG101, ENG107, or equivalent.

Course Competencies

1. Define a vocabulary of modern religious studies.

2. Identify and describe the major varieties of religious experience in the modern world.

3. Identify and describe significant newer religions.

4. Describe the presentation of religion in the media (literature, film, television, music)

5. Explain the ways in which religious movements use modern media to present themselves.

6. Describe the ecumenical and pan-religion movements.

7. Identify and describe important social and global issues in modern religion.

8. Identify issues that are likely to affect religion in the future.

Texts and Course Materials

Religion and Culture: Contemporary Practices and Perspectives, Richard D. Hecht &

Vincent F. Biondo III, Editors, Fortress Press, ISBN: 978-0-8006-9898-0

Textbook can be:

(1) Rented ($32.63) or purchased ($43.50) at the SCC Campus Bookstore

Note: All other materials will be provided FREE through the course site.

Course Technologies

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of technologies used in this course.

Maricopa Systems

This course uses key Maricopa systems for course management and communication.

- Canvas Learning Management System
- Student Maricopa Gmail Account
- Maricopa Open Educational Resource Learning System (MOER)

Streaming Media/Audio/Video Tools

This course uses webcasting, lecture capture systems, YouTube, and/or other streaming media services.

- YouTube

Course Policies

The following are policies specific to this course. Students are also responsible for the college policies included on the [Student Regulations](#) page of the Maricopa Community College District website.

Respect is the overriding principle which will guide our discussions and interactions with one another. Respect for the course, your instructor, the subject matter, and classmates will manifest itself in a variety of ways:

1. Professional, academic, and respectful language will be expected in all correspondence with both your classmates and instructor. Please remember that it is easy to misconstrue tone through the written word and so it is particularly important that students be mindful of how they converse via written responses. Students may address the instructor as Ms. Andrews and their classmates by their first names.
2. Under no conditions will derogatory remarks, name calling, or racial or religious slurs be tolerated. If students have a question and cannot figure out how to word it, they should do the best they can and let the class know they struggled with how to word the question.

3. Revealing one's own religious convictions is fully acceptable in this course. At the same time, the purpose of discussions is not for all students to agree or convince others that their convictions are wrong. Rather they are designed for students to process information, share their perspectives, question each other and ultimately clarify their own views.
4. Discussion posts are expected to primarily reflect engagement with the materials that students read and watch in the audio/visual portion of the website. Students are to be specific in their responses and precise in quoting or describing elements from the readings or visuals to which they are responding.

Grading Standards & Practices

1. Participation on the discussion board and assignment completion is absolutely required and essential to achieve course objectives and are the basis for attendance.
2. All assignments are to be completed no later than 11:59pm on the day they are due or they will be considered late.
3. Postings and quizzes will have 5 pts deducted each day they are late. Points will be deducted until the assignment has reached zero points. For example, an assignment due by 11:59 pm on May 6 that was actually posted on May 8 would be considered 2 days late and would have 10 points automatically deducted from it.
4. A Writing Assignment will be deducted 10 pts each day it is submitted late until the assignment reaches a zero.
5. Extenuating circumstances, which may account for the missed work, must be communicated to the instructor as soon as possible. If contacted about a circumstance ahead of time or as soon as possible, the instructor is much more flexible.
6. If you are unable to access the course due to a failure of your computer technology, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible. If you experience difficulty with Canvas and a deadline for an assignment is upon you, email the instructor your assignment (i.e. discussion posting) and then post it on Canvas when Canvas is working again. If all web applications cannot be used, feel free to call or text the instructor at the number provided in the syllabus.
7. Please print out the syllabus and instructor's contact information in case you are unable to access the course website.

8. Appropriate MLA citations ARE expected for all assignments. The SCC Writing Center website (http://showcase.scottsdalecc.edu/writingcenter/) and the Purdue Online Writing Lab (http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/), both provide helpful instruction on basic MLA citation.
9. Expectations and detailed grading rubrics for assignments can be found on the class website.

Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	342-405
B	304-341
C	266-303
D	228-265
F	227 or below
Pass/Fail	**Points Range**
P	266-405
Z	265 or below

- You will receive a grade of F or Z if you earn less than 266 points or fail to complete the course by the established date or without benefit of an official withdrawal.

Assignments

Assignment Name	Points	Approx. Percent of Grade
Canvas Message Instructor	5	1%
Student Introductions	5	1%
Syllabus Quiz	10	2.5%

Assignment Name	Points	Approx. Percent of Grade
Module 1 Discussion: Modern Approaches to the Study of Religion	10	2.5%
QUIZ: Module 1 (Modern Approaches to the Study of Religion)	10	2.5%
Module 2 Discussion: Narratives Impacting Contemporary Religion	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 2 (Narratives Impacting Contemporary Religion)	10	2.5%
Module 3 Discussion: Conflict/Peacebuilding	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 3 (Conflict/Peacebuilding)	10	2.5%
Module 4 Discussion: Civil Religion	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 4 (Civil Religion)	10	2.5%
Module 5 Discussion: Science	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 4 (Science)	10	2.5%
Proposed Thesis Statements Writing Assignment 1	5	1%
Writing Assignment 1	45	12%
Module 6 Discussion: Economics	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 6 (Economics)	10	2.5%
Module 7 Discussion: Education	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 7 (Education)	10	2.5%

Assignment Name	Points	Approx. Percent of Grade
Module 8 Discussion: Contemporary Visual Art	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 8 (Contemporary Visual Art)	10	2.5%
Module 8 Discussion: NRM's	20	5%
QUIZ: Module 8 (NRM's)	10	2.5%
Proposed Thesis Statements Writing Assignment 2	5	1%
Writing Assignment 2	45	12%
TOTAL:	**380**	**100%**

* Note percentages are rounded approximations so the percent Total does not exactly equal 100% on chart.

Response Time

Students can expect a response time of 24 hours for the instructor to respond to messages sent via the Canvas Learning Management System or email. Students can expect assignments to be graded within 7 days of the assignment's due date.

Attendance Policy

1. Assignments for this course are due weekly. Attendance will be dictated by students engaging with the weekly assignments.

2. If a student has not completed assignments for the week, the instructor will notify the student through Canvas.

3. If the student does not respond back to the instructor, the instructor will withdraw the student 14 days after the last assignment was submitted by the student. The student's current grade in the course will dictate whether or not the withdrawal is noted as passing or failing. After 60% of the class time has passed, the student will not be withdrawn by the instructor for missed assignments.

4. A student may initiate an official withdrawal from any course by submitting a withdrawal form with required signatures to the Admissions and Records office within published deadlines.

Instructional Contact Hours (Seat Time)

This is a three (3) credit-hour course. Plan to spend at least three hours on course content or seat time (direct instruction) and six hours on homework weekly. Accelerated courses will require additional time per week.

Online Tutoring

SCC's tutors are available online to help with your courses. You may work with an SCC tutor remotely using Google Meet, your phone, or email. Visit the SCC Tutoring & Learning Centers page for detailed information on the five learning center's hours and procedures.

As much as possible, it is highly recommended that you utilize SCC tutors since they are more familiar with SCC coursework, instructor expectations, and assignments; however, if you need to work with a tutor outside regular hours, online and hybrid students now have access to a 24/7 online tutoring service called Brainfuse. Brainfuse provides online tutoring in a variety of academic subjects. Each student may utilize up to 6 hours of online tutoring through Brainfuse per semester, and has the option of requesting additional time if needed.

To access Brainfuse and begin working with a tutor:

1. Visit the SCC Online Tutoring Services Through Brainfuse page (https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/students/tutoring/online-tutoring)
2. Click the **Visit a tutor online** button
3. Enter your MEID and password
4. Choose your topic and subject
5. Click the **Connect** button

Please use your time effectively and be prepared with your questions before you connect to a tutor. Tutors and students communicate in real-time so whatever you type, draw, or share on the screen, the tutor sees, and vice versa. You may also want to have screenshots ready if applicable. All Brainfuse sessions are recorded for review later.

Learning Tools and Your Privacy and Security

 SCC utilizes a variety of software applications and web-based tools operated by third party vendors to support student learning. To allow student access to the application, site or tool, certain identifiable information may be required to establish a user name or password, and submit work and/or download information from these tools. Inherent with all internet-based tools, there is a risk that individuals assume when electing to use these tools, as they may place information at risk of disclosure.

To use learning tools responsibly, please observe all laws and the Maricopa Community College District [Student Conduct Code](#), such as copyright infringement, plagiarism, harassment or interference with the underlying technical code of the software. As a student using a learning tool, you have certain rights. Any original work that you produce belongs to you as a matter of copyright law. You also have a right to the privacy of your educational records. Your contributions to learning tools constitute an educational record. By using the tool, and not taking other options available to you in this course equivalent to this assignment that would not be posted publicly on the internet, you consent to the collaborative use of this material as well as to the disclosure of it in this course and potentially for the use of future courses.

Students are responsible for the information contained in this syllabus, the Syllabus page in your Canvas course and the **College Policies & Student Services** page found in the First Steps module of your Canvas course. Students will be notified by the instructor of any changes in course requirements or policies.