

MORMONISM

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Office Hours: Tue, 4:00-5:00pm (or by appointment)

Course Number: CPRL 350T
Semester: Fall 2012, #18917
Days: Tue, Thur
Time: 11:30-12:45pm
Location: EC-011

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Description

An introduction to and investigation of the history, teachings, texts, and practices of Mormonism, with a primary emphasis on The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Summary

This course provides a balanced introductory exploration of Mormonism. Students will study the history, teachings, texts, and practices of one of the world's fastest-growing religious movements. Mormonism is increasingly becoming a topic of interest in politics, the media, as well as the academy. Mormon related courses are being offered at various universities, including the Claremont Graduate University, which has established the first chair of Mormon Studies at a graduate-level institution. Mormonism is a religious movement which may be investigated from the different perspectives described above, allowing each of the students to develop and apply their skills and techniques, as students of comparative religion.

Objectives and Student Learning Goals

After participating in this course, students should:

- improve their ability to approach religions from different perspectives (i.e. historical, philosophical, textual, sociological).
- understand the basic history, beliefs, and practices of Mormonism.
- be able to discuss the development of Mormonism in the context of the history of the United States.
- appreciate many of the major tensions, divisions and differences within Mormonism.
- be able to articulate some of the differences and disagreements, as well as points of similarity and agreement between Mormons and those of other faith traditions.

Prerequisite(s)

Completion of GE C.2 Introduction to the Humanities.

General Education Category

This course fulfills GE C.3 Explorations in the Humanities. (If you wish to pursue a minor in Religious Studies or a minor in Christian Studies, you can “double count” this course for GE and the minor – up to nine units of GE courses from one department may be used to meet minor requirements. If you are a major in Religious Studies, this class counts as one course toward your upper division “Development of Western Religious Thought” requirement, but cannot count for GE.)

This course also fulfills the ‘Learning Goals’ for subarea C.3, which state that students shall:

- Understand broad, unifying themes from cross-disciplinary perspectives in the humanities.
- Understand the relevance of the humanities for the thoughtful consideration of complex contemporary problems.
- Appreciate the complex relationship and interaction between the humanities and other fields of learning, including the natural sciences, social sciences, and arts.

General Education Writing Requirement

The writing assignments discussed below are designed to meet the General Education writing requirement. The substance as well as the manner of organization and expression of the information and ideas will be evaluated. In other words, the content as well as the style and grammar of the paper will be graded. To encourage each student to advance his/her writing competence, the assessment of all papers will include suggestions for improvement on papers for future courses.

Department of Comparative Religion Student Learning Goals & Outcomes:

All students majoring in Religious Studies shall achieve competence in the following domains of skill and knowledge:

A. Skills

Learning Goal: Students possess the ability to perform research and interpret materials related to the study of religion.

Outcome 1: Students can analyze written materials related to the study of religion.

Outcome 2: Students have acquired information literacy in the study of religion.

Learning Goal: Students can effectively communicate in written and spoken mediums.

Outcome 3: Students are able to write well-organized critical and analytical research papers related to the study of religion.

Outcome 4: Students are able to speak clearly and effectively using relevant and adequate supporting evidence.

B. Knowledge

Learning Goal: Students can demonstrate an understanding of the beliefs, rituals, texts, and figures related to a variety of religious traditions. [Not applied to this course.]

Outcome 5: Students can describe the basic teachings and practices of major religious traditions and can compare and contrast the principal similarities and differences between them.

Outcome 6: Students are able to identify the history and development of specific religions and their contemporary relevance.

Outcome 7: Students can compare key theories and theorists in the study of religion. [Not applied to this course.]

Outcome 8: Students can interpret key thinkers and figures within religious traditions.

PLANNED ASSIGNMENTS

Note: All written assignments should be typed, double-spaced, written in Times Roman 12 point font, contain 1 inch margins, and have a cover page. Either MLA or Chicago citation style is acceptable, so long as it is employed consistently. Endnotes are preferable to footnotes when necessary.

Quizzes

There will be four unannounced quizzes. Each quiz will have eight questions, and each question will be worth five points each, for a total of 40 points per quiz. Questions will typically require very short answers, ranging from one word to one sentence, but may occasionally require several sentences. Questions will always be based on the required readings, so if you've done the reading you shouldn't have any problem answering them successfully.

'Field' Research Paper

You will do both of the following and write about one of them. First, visit an LDS Church service (the entire three-hour meeting). It is preferable that you *not* attend a service with friends or relatives so that you can concentrate on the experience from the perspective of an observer, take notes, etc. If you are a member, you will visit a family ward that is not the one you normally attend. Second, view one of the sessions of the LDS General Conference (October 6-7). Write four or more pages providing your general impression of the meeting, a thoughtful consideration of any personal conversations/interactions you have while there, and a critical reflection on several of the presentations. At the beginning of your paper, please indicate where, when, and which ward you visited, and which session of general conference that you viewed.

Term Paper

Write a ten to twelve page term paper. Topics must focus exclusively on some aspect of Mormonism, and will be chosen by the student in consultation with the instructor, which means that each student must speak or meet with the instructor to receive approval on his or her topic. Additional details will be provided later, but the paper will be written in several steps—topic selection, references/sources selection, outline, submission of final draft—and points will be given for the completion of each step. The paper will be worth a total of 200 points.

Final Exam

The final exam will consist of questions requiring short answers (words, phrases, or one to two sentences), short essay questions (three to five sentences), and one or two longer essay question (three to five paragraphs). No make-up examinations will be given except for reasons of illness or other verified emergencies. Special arrangements for the final must be made within 24 hours of the exam. Make-up exams may contain different questions than the regular test. The final will be worth a total of 240 points.

Class Attendance and Participation

This course is based on class lecture and discussion. Your attendance and participation are essential to the learning process. Attendance is thus required. *Each absence will result in the loss of four points.* An outstanding student in this category will not miss more than one class and participate frequently, offering creative insights and posing intelligent questions. An above average student will miss no more than three classes and participate frequently and appropriately. An average student will miss no more than five classes and participate occasionally. Below average grades are given for missing over five classes and infrequent participation.

GRADING POLICY

A total of 800 points will be available for assessment based on the following:

| Points | Percent of total grade | Assignment |
|--------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 80 | 10% | Class attendance and participation |
| 120 | 15% | 'Field' research paper |
| 160 | 20% | Quizzes |
| 200 | 25% | Term paper |
| 240 | 30% | Final examination |

Grading Scale

Plus-minus +/- will be used. Final grades will be calculated on the following basis:

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|----|------------|----------------|----|------------|------------------------|
| A+ | 97.0-100% | 776-800 points | C+ | 77.0-79.9% | 616-639 points |
| A | 94.0-96.9% | 752-775 points | C | 74.0-76.9% | 592-615 points |
| A- | 90.0-93.9% | 720-751 points | C- | 70.0-73.9% | 560-591 points |
| B+ | 87.0-89.9% | 696-719 points | D+ | 67.0-69.9% | 536-559 points |
| B | 84.0-86.9% | 672-695 points | D | 60.0-66.9% | 480-535 points (no D-) |
| B- | 80.0-83.9% | 640-671 points | F | 0-59.9% | 0-479 points |

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

The minimum penalty for cheating on an examination or for plagiarism will be an "F" on the assignment (zero points), without the possibility to re-do the work. Regardless of the final point total, any academic dishonesty will result in a loss of at least one full letter grade. Depending upon the severity of the offense, a final course grade of "F" may be assigned, and the Dean of Students, Judicial Affairs will be notified. Plagiarism is a serious issue. It is the student's responsibility to be clear of the meaning of plagiarism. For examples of when to document your sources, and additional explanation, see the "Student Guide to Avoiding Plagiarism" available at the following URL: www.fullerton.edu/deanofstudents/Judicial/Academic%20Integrity%20Resources.asp.

Technology

Except where authorized by Disabled Students Services (DSS), or special permission has been granted by the instructor, the use of laptops, tablets, or smart phones during class is not permitted. Using any electronic device for email, web browsing, instant messaging, text messaging, or accessing the Internet for any reason is not permitted, so all devices should be turned off or muted and put away during class. Similarly, the use of cell phones to make or receive calls during class is not permitted. Failure to adhere to this prohibition will result in a loss of attendance and participation points.

Special Needs

During the first week of classes, inform the instructor of any disabilities or special needs that you have that may require special arrangements. Students with disabilities need to document the disability at the DSS office in UH 101.

Emergency Procedures

URL: emergencypreparedness.fullerton.edu

TEXTS

Available at The Little Professor Book Center, 725 Placentia Ave. (Major cross streets: Placentia Ave. & Nutwood Ave.) 714-996-3133. Order online at www.FullertonTextbooks.com and they will mail your order to you.

Required

Matthew Bowman, *The Mormon People: The Making of an American Faith*. New York: Random House, 2012.

Claudia L. Bushman, *Contemporary Mormonism: Latter-day Saints in Modern America*. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 2006.

Richard N. Ostling and Joan K. Ostling, *Mormon America: The Power and the Promise*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1999.

Recommended

The Book of Mormon. New York: Doubleday, 2004.

The Book of Mormon: A Reader's Edition. Grant Hardy, ed. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois, 2005.

Leonard J. Arrington and Davis Bitton, *The Mormon Experience: A History of the Latter-day Saints*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1992.

Claudia L. Bushman and Richard L. Bushman, *Building the Kingdom: A History of Mormons in America*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Richard Bushman, *Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Douglas J. Davies, *An Introduction to Mormonism*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Eric A. Eliason, ed., *Mormons & Mormonism: An Introduction to an American World Religion*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2001.

Thomas F. O'Dea, *The Mormons*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1957.

Jana Riess and Christopher Kimball Bigelow, *Mormonism for Dummies*. Indianapolis: Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2005.

Jan Shipps, *Mormonism: The Story of a New Religious Tradition*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987.

SCHEDULE, READINGS, AND DUE DATES

Readings are subject to change. Those marked with two asterisks (**) will be made available electronically.

| WEEK | TOPIC(S) | ACTIVITIES |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| 1 8/28 & 8/30 | <p>Mormonism 101: Mormon, Mormonism, Mormonisms Required Readings: R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, Introduction, XV-XXVI; **R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapter 1,1-15; **Carol S. Matthews, “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,” in <i>New Religions</i>, chapters 1-2, 3-33.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: Dean L. May, “Mormons,” in E. Eliason, ed., <i>Mormons and Mormonism</i>, chapter 2, 47-75; C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 1, 1-11; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 1, 9-20.</p> | |
| 2 9/4 & 9/6 | <p>History 1: The Beginnings (1820 – 1846) Required Readings: M. Bowman, <i>The Mormon People</i>, chapters 1-3, 3-95.</p> <p>Recommended Reading: R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 1-2, 1-37; **Joseph Smith—History, <i>Pearl of Great Price</i> (LDS Scriptures, 1981), 47-59; C. & R. Bushman, <i>Building the Kingdom</i>, chapters 1-3, 1-36; J. Shipps, <i>Mormonism</i>, chapter 1, 1-23; L. Arrington & D. Bitton, <i>The Mormon Experience</i>, chapters 1 & 3, 2-19, 44-82; T. O’Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapters 1 & 3, 1-21, 41-75; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapters 4 & 11, 59-66, 185-198.</p> | |
| 3 9/11 & 9/13 | <p>History 2: The Westward Movement (1846 – 1890) Required Readings: M. Bowman, <i>The Mormon People</i>, chapters 4-5, 96-151; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapters 3-4, 38-75.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: L. Arrington & D. Bitton, <i>The Mormon Experience</i>, chapters 5-6, 83-126; C. & R. Bushman, <i>Building the Kingdom</i>, chapters 4-5, 37-57; R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapter 6, 81-102; T. F. O’Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapters 4-5, 76-111; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapters 12-13, 199-226.</p> | |
| 4 9/18 & 9/20 | <p>History 3: Mormonism in Transition (1890 – 1945) Required Readings: M. Bowman, <i>The Mormon People</i>, chapter 6, 152-83; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 5, 76-93.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: C. & R. Bushman, <i>Building the Kingdom</i>, chapter 6-7, 58-87; J. Shipps, <i>Mormonism</i>, chapters 6-7, 108-49; L. Arrington & D. Bitton, <i>The Mormon Experience</i>, chapter 13, 242-61; T. F. O’Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapter 5, 111-18.</p> | |
| 5 9/25 & 9/27 | <p>History 4: Assimilation & Retrenchment (1945 – Present) Required Readings: M. Bowman, <i>The Mormon People</i>, chapter 7-8, 184-253; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapters 6-7, 94-129.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 8-9,</p> | |

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| | <p>131-62; C. & R. Bushman, <i>Building the Kingdom</i>, chapter 8, 88-103; R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapter 7, 103-16; L. Arrington & D. Bitton, <i>The Mormon Experience</i>, chapters 14-16, 262-335; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 8, 131-48; **Armand Mauss, <i>The Angel and the Beehive: The Mormon Struggle with Assimilation</i>, (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1994), chapter 1, 3-17.</p> | |
| <p>6 10/2 & 10/4</p> | <p>Texts 1: Intro to Sacred Texts; Revelation, Translation, and Transmission Required Readings: <i>The Book of Mormon</i>: introductory pages, 1 Nephi chapter 1, 3 Nephi 11; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 16, 259-77; R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapter 2, 16-34.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: **Terryl Givens, <i>By the Hand of Mormon</i>, chapters 3 & 9, 62-88, 240-46; **Blake T. Ostler, "The Book of Mormon as a Modern Expansion of an Ancient Source," <i>Dialogue</i> 20, no. 1 (Spring 1987): 66-123; **Royal Skousen, "Joseph Smith's Translation of the Book of Mormon: Evidence for Tight Control of the Text," <i>Journal of Book of Mormon Studies</i>, Vol. 7, Iss. 1, 22-31; **Nathan O. Hatch, "The Populace Vision of Joseph Smith," in <i>Mormons and Mormonism</i>, chapter 5, 123-36; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 9, 151-70; J. Shipps, <i>Mormonism</i>, chapter 2, 24-39; T. O'Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapter 2, 22-40.</p> | |
| <p>7 10/9 & 10/11</p> | <p>Texts 2: How Mormons use Scripture; History as Sacred Text Required Readings: <i>The Doctrine and Covenants</i>: Explanatory Introduction, Section 20; <i>The Pearl of Great Price</i>: Introductory Note, Moses chapter 1, Abraham chapter 3; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 17, 278-94.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: **Phillip L. Barlow, <i>Mormons and the Bible</i>, chapter 6, 182-214; **Terryl Givens, <i>By the Hand of Mormon</i>, chapter 8, 209-39; **Rodney Stark, <i>The Rise of Mormonism</i>, chapter 2, 30-56; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 10, 171-84; Jan Shipps, <i>Mormonism</i>, chapter 3, 41-65.</p> | |
| <p>8 10/16 & 10/18</p> | <p>Teachings 1: Articles of Faith; Cosmology, Cosmogony, and Eschatology Required Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 2, 12-36; **R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapter 5, 64-80; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 18, 295-314.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 2, 21-39; Colleen McDannell and Bernhard Lang, "Modern Heaven . . . and a Theology," in <i>Mormons and Mormonism</i>, chapter 6, 137-146; T. F. O'Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapter 6, 119-154; **Stan Larson, "The King Follett Discourse: A Newly Amalgamated Text," <i>BYU Studies</i>, 1978, Vol. 18:2, 193-208.</p> | |
| <p>9 10/23 & 10/25</p> | <p>Teachings 2: Anthropology, Christology, and Soteriology Required Readings: **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles"; **J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 3, 41-58; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 19, 315-33; **J. Shipps, "Is Mormonism Christian? Reflections on a</p> | |

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| | <p>Complicated Question," in E. Eliason, ed., <i>Mormons and Mormonism</i>, chapter 3, 76-98.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "The Father and the Son: A Doctrinal Exposition," June 30, 1916; **Steven L. Robinson, <i>How Wide the Divide?</i> (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997), chapter 4, 143-88.</p> | |
| <p>10 10/30 & 11/1</p> | <p>Teachings 3: Ecclesiology, Temples, and Ritual; Other Beliefs and Practices</p> <p>Required Readings: **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "The Family: A Proclamation to the World"; **R. Bushman, <i>Mormonism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, chapters 3-4, 35-63; C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapters 3 & 5, 37-56, 75-90.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapters 10 & 12, 159-72, 184-202; J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapters 5, 7, & 16, 66-88, 113-30, 271-89; T. O’Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapters 7-8, 155-221.</p> | <p>‘Field’ Research Due (11/1)</p> |
| <p>11 11/6 & 11/8</p> | <p>Sociology 1: The Sociological Perspective; Perception, Persecution, and Politics</p> <p>Required Readings: **R. Stark, "The Basis of Mormon Success: A Theoretical Application," in E. Eliason, ed., <i>Mormons and Mormonism</i>, chapter 11, 207-42; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapters 20-21, 334-71.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapters 8-9, 131-162; T. O’Dea, <i>The Mormons</i>, chapter 9-10, 222-263; **R. Stark, "Why Religious Movements Succeed or Fail: A Revised General Model." <i>Journal of Contemporary Religion</i> 11: 1996, 133-46; **R. Finke & R. Stark, "How the Upstart Sects Won America, 1776-1850." <i>Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)</i>, 28(1): March 1989, 27-44.</p> | |
| <p>12 11/13 & 11/15</p> | <p>Sociology 2: Race</p> <p>Required Readings: **A. L. Mauss, <i>All Abraham’s Children</i>, chapters 1 & 8-10, 1-16 & 212-277; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 6, 94-108.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 6, 91-110; **Lester E. Bush and Armand L. Mauss, eds., <i>Neither Black Nor White</i>, (Midvale, UT: Signature Books, 1984).</p> | |
| <p>Week of 11/19</p> | <p>Fall Recess</p> | |
| <p>13 11/27 & 11/29</p> | <p>Sociology 3: Gender and Sexual Orientation</p> <p>Required Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 7, 111-130; **Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, "Mormon women in the history of second-wave feminism," <i>Dialogue</i> 43:2, 45-63; **LDS Church Newsroom, "Interview With Church Leaders on Same-sex Attraction," (2006); **LDS Church Newsroom, "The Divine Institution of Marriage," (Aug 13, 2008); **Taylor Petrey, "Toward a Post-Heterosexual Mormon Theology," <i>Dialogue</i>, Vol. 44, no. 4 (Winter 2011),</p> | |

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| | <p>106-41.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: **HRC News -"HRC Delivers 150K Petitions to Mormon Church"; **LDS Church Newsroom, "Church Responds to HRC Petition: Statement on Same-Sex Attraction"; **LDS Church Newsroom, "Address by Bruce C. Hafen to the Evergreen International Conference"; **Sheila Taylor, "Gender and Salvation in LDS Theology," presentation given at Claremont Graduate University on March 27, 2007; **Margaret Toscano, "Is There a Place for Heavenly Mother in Mormon Theology?" in <i>Discourses in Mormon Theology: Philosophical & Theological Possibilities</i>, (Salt Lake City: Greg Kofford Books, 2007), 193-224.</p> | |
| <p>14 12/4 & 12/6</p> | <p>Sociology 4: Missionary Work and Globalization Required Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapter 4, 57-74; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 13, 203-19. Recommended Readings: **J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 14, 231-50.</p> | <p>Term Paper Due (12/6)</p> |
| <p>15 12/11 & 12/13</p> | <p>Sociology 5: Lived Religion Required Readings: C. Bushman, <i>Contemporary Mormonism</i>, chapters 10-11, 163-88; R. & J. Ostling, <i>Mormon America</i>, chapter 22, 372-86. Recommended Readings: **J. Riess & C. Bigelow, <i>Mormonism for Dummies</i>, chapter 17-18, 291-324; **A. Mauss, <i>The Angel and the Beehive</i>, chapter 12, 196-214; **R. Stark, "The Rise of a New World Faith" in <i>The Rise of Mormonism</i> (2005), 139-46; L. Arrington & D. Bitton, <i>The Mormon Experience</i>, chapters 15-16, 284-335.</p> | |
| <p>16</p> | <p>Final Exam: Thursday, December 20, 12:00-1:50</p> | |

This syllabus is subject to revision, but no changes will be made without clearly communicating them in class and by email.