



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

FALL 2023 COURSES

Leadership Ethics: Early China
(FSLT)

Introduction to Hebrew Bible
(FSHT)

Islam and Film
(FSVP)

Introduction to New Testament
(FSHT)

Varieties of Christian Ethics
(FSSA)

Truth, Justice, and the American Way
(Of Doing Philosophy)

Tolkien and the Medieval Imagination
(FYS)



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Electives & General Education

Leadership Ethics: Early China (RELG 205, FSLT)

TR 12:00-1:15 (01); 1:30-2:45 (02)

Jane Geaney

Two questions lie at the heart of classical Chinese texts: how to live and how to lead. This course explores moral visions of life and leadership composed in China two millennia ago and still influencing China's leaders today—from the uniquely Chinese “Non-Action” method to Chinese Virtue Ethics, Consequentialism, and Divine Command Theory. Topics include Confucian, Daoist, Legalist, and Mohist treatment of Heaven's Mandate and the ancestral Dao, as well as Sunzi's *Art of War*, and contemporary Chinese Social Justice Leadership and Transformational Leadership.

Introduction to Hebrew Bible (RELG 210)

MW 12:00-1:15 (01); 1:30-2:45 (02)

More information is coming soon.

Islam and Film (RELG 215, FSVP)

MW 9:00-10:15 (01); 10:30-11:45 (02)

Mimi Hanaoka

How have Islam and Muslims been depicted and represented in documentaries and films? This course uses four primary themes to guide our exploration: ritual, gender, immigration, and race. We will ask these sorts of questions: What is the role of ritual in Islam? How have Islam and Muslims been depicted and represented in cinema in terms of ritual, gender, immigration, and race? What are the historical contexts that have framed these understandings of ritual, gender, immigration, and race in Islam?

Introduction to New Testament (RELG 241, FSHT)

TR 12:00-1:15 (01); 1:30-2:45 (02)

Stephanie Cobb

CRIMINAL! LIAR!

What does it mean to worship a man who was summarily executed as a political insurgent by the Roman government? Why would anyone devote themselves to a dead man? The books of the New Testament are the earliest attempts at explaining what it meant to be a follower of a crucified criminal. “Introduction to New Testament” examines the political critiques made by early Christians to justify their faith, and it explores ways the New Testament has informed political debates in U.S. history.

Varieties of Christian Ethics (RELG 267, FSSA)

MW 12:00-1:15

Scott Davis

This course looks at the development of Christian ethics at different times and in different communities. Topics may include war, abortion, medical ethics, with authors such as Augustine of Hippo, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, Max Weber, and others.

Religious Studies Seminars

Truth, Justice, and the American Way (Of Doing Philosophy) (RELG 367)

MW 1:30-2:45

Scott Davis

Co-taught with Professor David Lefkowitz (Philosophy), this course considers the Pragmatism of Peirce, James, and Dewey as a distinctly American approach to philosophy, with important implications for ethics, law, and political theory.

Courses for First-Year Students

Tolkien and the Medieval Imagination (FYS 100-03)

MWF 10:30-11:20

Scott Davis

Before he was known for his fiction, J. R. R. Tolkien was recognized as an important student of medieval English language and literature. This course combines Tolkien's work as a scholar with his literary work to get a sense of how each informed the other.



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