

Religious Studies 2CA: Christianity and Art (Winter 2019)

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Office hours:

Course description

This course will examine the development of Christian art from the period of the early church to the sixteenth century. Primary attention will be given to how biblical texts and doctrines were represented visually in mosaics, frescoes, paintings, and manuscript illustrations. Among the topics to be considered will be whether and how God may be depicted; the history of portrayals of Christ, the Trinity, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and Mary; and the role the allegorical reading of Scripture played in artistic interpretation.

Please note: The lectures will be held in the Thursday (11:30-12:20) and Friday (10:30-11:20) slots and the tutorial will be held in the Tuesday (11:30-12:20) slot.

I. Required Texts

The Bible (For example: The New Revised Standard Version; The Jerusalem Bible; The New International Version)

The Coursepack

II. Schedule of Lectures

Jan	8	Introduction
	10	Art and the Christian Tradition: The Sistine Chapel
	11	
Jan	17	The Visible and the Invisible
	18	
Jan	24	The Early Church
	25	
Jan	31	Divine and Human
Feb	1	
Feb	7	Why did he have to die? The Crucifixion
	8	
Feb	14	The Trinity
	15	
Feb	18-24	Mid-Term Break
Feb	28	Mid-Term Test

March 1	No Lecture
March 5	No Tutorial
March 7 8	The Ascension and the Wounds
March 14 15	The Mother of God
March 21 22	The Allegorical Interpretation of the Bible
March 28 29	Noah, Foxes, and Grapes
April 4 5	The Image and the Reformation

III. Evaluation

Seminar Assignments	30%
Mid-term Test (Oct 24)	30%
Final Exam	40%

Late submissions, without the prior permission of the instructor, will be penalized a grade a day, e.g., A to A-.

IV. Tutorial Assignments

Students are expected to prepare for weekly seminars by carefully reading all assigned materials. You are to write assignments on any five out the ten texts or group of texts that are found in the *Coursepack*. Each assignment consists of five questions. All the questions are to be answered. Each answer is to be no more than fifty words long. The assignments are to be submitted at the beginning of the tutorial on the dates specified on the list below. The questions for the assignments are on pages XX-XX of the *Coursepack*.

Jan 22	The Visible and the Invisible (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 3-14)
Jan 29	The Early Church (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 17-28)
Feb 5	Divine and Human (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 37-64)
Feb 12	Why did he have to die? The Crucifixion (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 67-102)
Feb 26	The Trinity (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp.105-12)
Mar 12	The Ascension and the Wounds (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 115-31)
Mar 19	The Mother of God (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp.135-47)
Mar 26	The Allegorical Interpretation of the Bible (<i>Coursepack</i> , pp. 151-66)

April 2 Noah, Foxes, and Grapes (*Coursepack*, pp. 203-16)
April 9 The Image and the Reformation (*Coursepack*, pp. 219-42)

POLICY STATEMENTS:

Changes in the Course

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check her/his McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Handing in of Work

Staff in the office of the Department of Religious Studies will not date-stamp or receive papers and other assignments.

Academic Integrity

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

McMaster Student Absence Form

The McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF) (<http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>) is a self-reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report MEDICAL absences that last up to 5 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work (that is less than 30% of the course grade). Please note, this tool cannot be used during any final examination period. You may submit a maximum of ONE Academic Work Missed request per term. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up with your instructor immediately regarding the nature of the accommodation. If you are absent for more than 5 days, exceed one request per term, are absent for a reason other than medical, or have missed work worth 30% or more of the final grade, you MUST visit your Faculty Office. You may be required to provide supporting documentation. This form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.

Social Sciences Faculty E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all email communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account.

This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion. Email Forwarding in MUGSI: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>
*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link.