

RELS202

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : RELS202 **Title :** Religion in America

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course examines the variety of ways in which religion is found in contemporary American experience. Course content focuses on the changes within traditional historical religions as well as new religious groups which have evolved within American society.

Course Scope:

This course examines both the historical development of religion in America and the ways in which religion has found in contemporary American experience. We will focus on the ongoing changes within traditional historical religions as well as new religious groups that have evolved within American society.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the historical development of religion in American life.
 2. Determine the process of change within both Christian denominations and other religious faiths.
 3. Discuss and evaluate the relationship between religion, politics and academia.
 4. Recognize and critique current trends in the American religious experience.
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Outline

Week 1: Introduction and Background

Learning Outcomes

Analyze the influence of Spanish and English Christianity upon Native American culture and religion (CO 1).
Determine the characteristics of early American Christianity (CO 1).

Required Readings

See the week 1 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Introduction Forum

Week 2: The Great Awakening and the Birth of the Republic

Learning Outcomes

Recognize the central personalities of the Great Awakening (CO 2).
Appraise the religious and cultural significance of the Great Awakening (CO 2).
Explain the influence of religion upon early American political beliefs (CO 3).

Required Readings

See the week 2 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 2 Forum

Week 3: Expansion and Consolidation

Learning Outcomes

Analyze the Second Great Awakening (CO 4).
Evaluate the process of Christian expansion (CO 3).

Required Readings

See the week 3 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 3 Forum

Week 3 Reflection Paper Due

Week 4: The Broadening of Denominations and Religious Communities

Learning Outcomes

Identify the various denominations that began to emerge on the American religious landscape (CO 1).
Compare how various denominations responded to the changes in American society (CO 2).

Required Readings

See the week 4 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 4 Forum

Week 5: Post Civil War and the New Americans

Learning Outcomes

Appraise the religious, political and social changes experience by Americans during the nineteenth century (CO 3).

Explain the process of “evangelizing” the new West (CO 3).

Critique relationship between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism (CO 4).

Required Readings

See the week 5 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 5 Forum

Week 5 Reflection Paper Due

Week 6: New Intellectual Climate and New Frontiers

Learning Outcomes

Evaluate the impact of the “new intellectualism” upon American religious life (CO 4).

Assess the effect that urbanization had upon American Christianity (CO 2).

Required Readings

See the week 6 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 6 Forum

Week 7: Shifting Religious Configuration

Learning Outcomes

Explain the development of Judaism within American life (CO 2).

Describe Pentacostalism, Fundamentalism and Pluralism (CO 2).

Interpret the changes in Protestantism following World War I (CO 3).

Required Readings

See the week 7 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 7 Forum

Annotated Bibliography Due

Week 8: Roman Catholicism and the “New” Religions

Learning Outcomes

Describe the changes experienced by American Roman Catholicism during the last five decades (CO 4).

Evaluate the use of media by various religious groups. (CO 4).

Assess the influence of new religions within America (CO 4).

Required Readings

See the week 8 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 8 Forum

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
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Materials

Book Title: Religion in America, 8th Ed-E-book available in the APUS Online Library. Links provided in the lesson section of the classroom.

Author: Corrigan

Publication Info: Routledge

ISBN: 9780136158172

Microsoft Office (MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint)

Adobe Acrobat Reader ([Click here for free download](#))

In addition to the required course texts, there are in websites in the classroom that are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow MLA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework to the Humanities Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](#) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. ***Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.***

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on

number of replies and word count requirements.

- The main response to the forum is due mid-week – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations. Late main response posts to a forum may not be accepted without prior instructor approval.
- Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week may not be graded.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Late quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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