



**REL 101-6-21**

**TTH**

**9:30-10:50am**

**Prof. Traina**

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**

**FALL 2018**



# **FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: AMERICAN UTOPIANS**

Through reading utopian and dystopian fiction, viewing utopian and dystopian films, and learning about actual utopian communities (which may feel very dystopian to you), we'll try to describe the line between utopianism and dystopianism and learn about the role religion has played in both

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**  
FALL 2018

**REL 200**

**MW  
9:30-10:50am**

**Prof.  
Mark McClish**



# INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM

One of the largest and most ancient of all religions, 'Hinduism' is actually a family of related traditions. Over the last 4000 years or more, the Hindu traditions of South Asia have developed an astonishing diversity of rituals, beliefs, and spiritual practices and a pantheon of hundreds of gods and goddesses, from the elephant-headed Ganeśa to the fierce goddess Kālī. This course will examine the breadth of the Hindu traditions as they developed over time, highlighting the shared features that make them a family, such as ritual sacrifice, world renunciation, law, spiritual discipline, devotion, worship, and theology.



**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**  
FALL 2018

**REL 270**

**MW  
11:00-12:20pm**

**Prof.  
Helmer**



# INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY

Theology is one of the oldest academic disciplines in the university, and possibly its most misunderstood. In this course we get to know theology's unique way of making sense of human existence on the planet. Or more precisely, we learn how to ask theological questions that have preoccupied humans for centuries: What does it mean to be human? Why does evil exist? What does God do with the world? We will address these questions by considering theologians from past, such as Martin Luther, and present, namely Black theologian James Cone and feminist theologian Elizabeth Johnson.

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES  
FALL 2018**

**REL 318  
(ASIAN\_LC 390-  
20)  
MW  
12:30-1:50pm  
Prof.  
Buckelew**



# RELIGION AND THE BODY IN CHINA

This seminar explores the place of the body in a variety of Chinese religious traditions, from the ancient period to the present day. We open with a question that animates the entire course: what is “the body,” and how do we know? In the first two weeks, we grapple with the dramatically different ways ancient Chinese and Greek medical traditions (respectively) viewed, touched, and diagnosed the body, seeking to understand how the body has been differently “constructed” as an object of knowledge in different parts of the world. Then we broaden our purview to examine how, over the course of Chinese history, the body was closely bound up with ethics; the aspiration to immortality; governance and cosmology; and human interactions with gods and demons (while also looping back to medicine several times). We conclude with two case studies of religion and the body in contemporary China.

**REL 349**

**M 2:00-4:50pm**

**Prof. Helmer**

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES  
FALL 2018**



## WHY COLLEGE?

Back by popular demand, Professor Helmer's seminar "Why College?" invites students to think about their college experience in light of new research about the "crisis" in higher education today.

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**  
FALL 2018

**REL 351-20  
(MENA 390-3,  
HUM 370-5)**

**MW  
2:00-3:20pm**

**Prof.  
Ingram**



# ISLAMIC LAW

Islamic law – the sacred law of Islam grounded in the Qur'an, the practice of the Prophet Muhammad, and the writings of Muslim scholars and jurists – stretches back nearly 1400 years. This course offers, first, an overview of the origins and evolution of Islamic law from the life of Muhammad to end of the classical era. We then seek, secondly, to understand how colonialism and the modern nation-state affected the conceptualization and implementation of Islamic law in the modern period. To these ends, we look in-depth at two specific areas of law – marriage and divorce, and criminal law – in two specific regions: the Ottoman empire and contemporary Iran.

**Prerequisite: REL 250 or consent of instructor**







**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**  
FALL 2018

**REL 379-20  
POLI-SCI  
382-20**

**TTH  
11:00-12:20pm**

**Prof. Hurd**

# **POLITICS OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY**

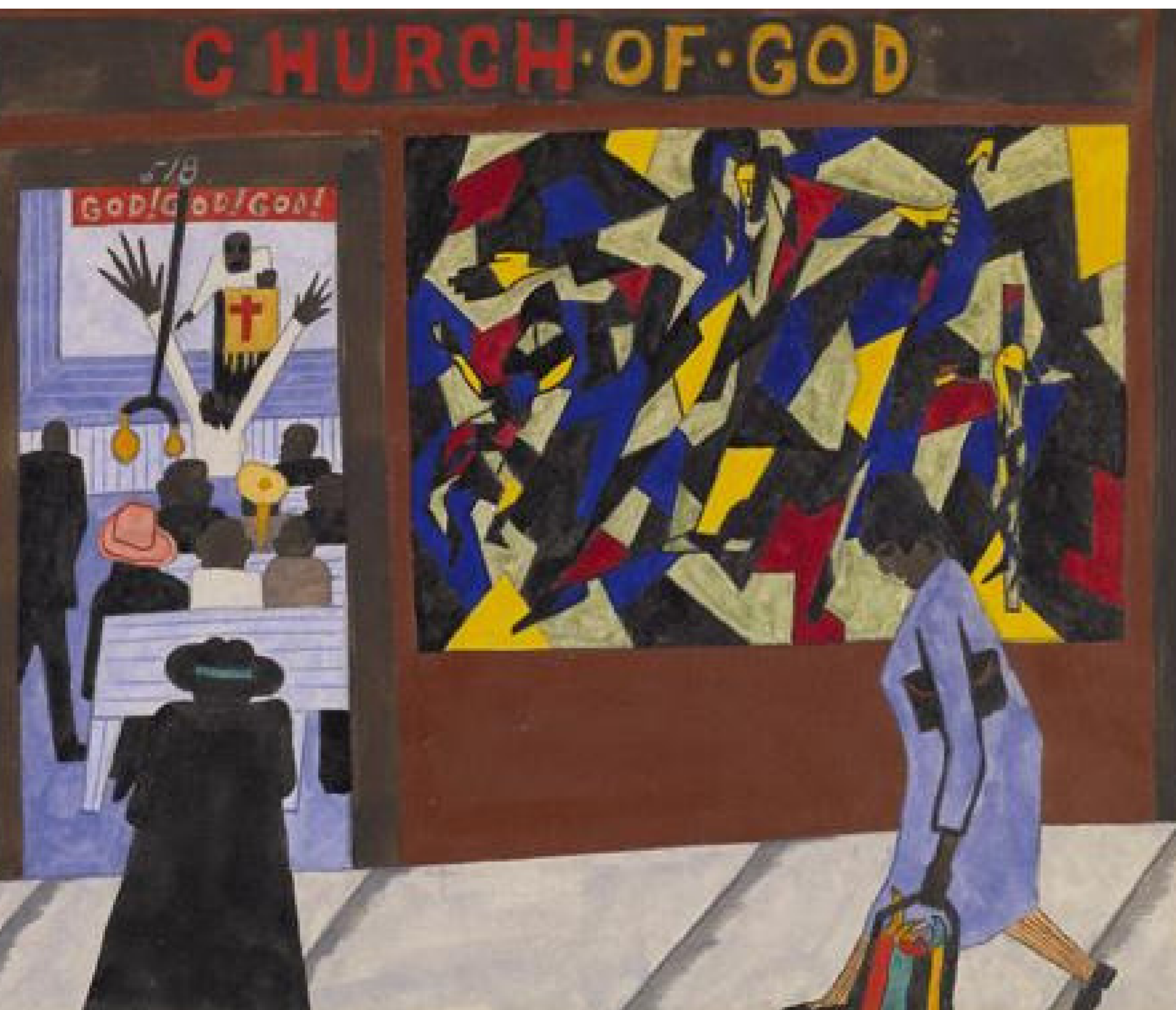
This course examines the entanglements of religion with human life, law, politics, and public culture in the US, U.S. foreign policy, and beyond. Beginning with legal controversies over yoga, the public display of crèches in the United States, and the religious history of the United States, we then turn to the question of who is a Jew legally in the United Kingdom, before moving further afield to reflect on a series of dilemmas involving the intersections of law, religion, and politics around the world. The course traverses disciplinary, geographic, and secular-religious boundaries, drawing on readings from politics, socio-legal studies, religious studies, indigenous studies, anthropology, history, and popular culture. Students also will consider their own experiences of living with religious diversity, as we explore tools and strategies to think in new ways about the place of religion in the contemporary world.

**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES**  
FALL 2018

**REL 462**  
**(HIST 492-26)**

**Tuesday**  
**3:00-5:50pm**

**Prof. Orsi**



# RELIGION, RACE, AND CLASS IN 20TH CENTURY US HISTORY

The intersection of race, religion, and class—as a generative convergence, as well as tragedy and outrage—is at once everywhere and nowhere in US religious history. Historians of American industrial cities, for example, have largely managed to overlook the role of religion in shaping urban topography, soundscapes, and political movements; the fact that the religions of the Great Migration, such as Pentecostalism, the Nation of Islam, and Black Catholicism, were all working-class creations exists just below the surface of historical consciousness.

This course considers the strange fate of this convergence through a careful consideration of recent work that aims to recover particular pieces its history. Topics to include Jews and Catholics in the urban crisis in Detroit; the Christian contribution to the making and unmaking of the New Deal; the prosperity gospel and millennial capitalism; the religious origins of the hard right; Black gospel music; and conservative evangelicalism and the service economy.