

History 3550, Fall 2013
Religion and American Culture, 1500-2000

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Office hours: Harvey, T and W 3 – 4:30. Meredith M 2 – 3:30. COB 2055

COURSE READINGS

Edward J. Blum and P. Harvey, *The Color of Christ* (CC)
 Allen Greer, *Mohawk Saint: The Life of Catherine Tekakwitha* (AG)
 Catherine Brekus, *Sarah Osborn's World* (CB)
 Deborah Applegate, *The Most Famous Man in America* (DA)
 Matthew Sutton, *Aimee Semple McPherson and the Resurrection of Christian America* (MS)
 Joanna Brooks, *Book of Mormon Girl* (JB)
 Online supplemental readings: listed below as RRI – RR6

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>
Aug. 26	America as a Christian Nation? Special “Simpsons” episode	
Sept. 3	Labor Day	Watch “Black Robe”
Sept. 10	Religious Encounters in Early America	AG, all; Response 1
Sept. 17	Great Awakenings	RRI; begin CB; AG review
Sept. 24	Great Awakenings II	CB, all; Response 2
Oct. 1	The Democratization of American Christianity	RR2; CC, 1 st half
Oct. 8	Religion, Race, Slavery, and War	RR3; John Brown film
Oct. 15	Henry Ward Beecher	DA, all; Response 3
Oct. 22	Aimee Semple McPherson	MS, all; review of MS due
Oct. 29	Films “Jesus Camp” and “The Apostle”	Takehome essay due
Nov. 5	20 th Century American Religions	CC, 2 nd half; Response 4; broadcast “Prayer Walking”
Nov. 12	Religion and the Civil Rights Movement	RR 4; “Eyes on the Prize”;
Nov. 19	Religion, Civil Rights, Red Power, and the Color of Christ;	Review of CC due
Nov. 26	Individual meetings on research paper	
Dec. 3	Pluralism-Modern Mormons	JB, all; RR 5; Response 5
Dec. 10	Pluralism-Muslims in America; film “Hijabistas”	RR 6
Dec. 17	Pluralism	Final papers due

GRADING

1) midterm take home exam:	25%
2) Book Review	15%
3) final paper	30%
4) Class Attendance, participation, responses	30%

RESERVE READINGS: available at websites listed below

RR 1 Jonathan Edwards, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God,” at

<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/edwards/sermons.sinners.html>; Charles Chauncy, criticism of revivals, to be distributed via pdf

RR 2 James Madison, "Memorial and Remonstrance," and Thomas Jefferson, "Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom"; U.S. Constitution, 1st Amendment: <http://religiousfreedom.lib.virginia.edu/sacred/> (find appropriate links)

RR 3 Selections from abolitionists and pro-slavery sermons, TBA; Abraham Lincoln, "2nd Inaugural Address," at <http://www.bartleby.com/124/pres32.html>

RR 4 Martin Luther King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," at http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html

RR 5 Feminist Mormon Housewives, pick one blog post

<http://www.feministmormonhousewives.org>. I am a Mormon spots- <http://mormon.org/people-short> look at 3 or 4.

RR 6 Muslim Women and Hijab <http://muslima.imow.org/content/icover> and film "Hijabistas: Inside the World of Muslim-American Fashion"- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mFMI2p5aDJU>

Films:

"Black Robe"; "John Brown's Holy War"; "The Apostle"; Portions of "Eyes on the Prize," and portions of "No One Knows My Name"; "Jesus Camp"; "In the Light of Reverence"; "New Muslim Cool"

Online Radio Broadcast: "Prayer Walking," from *This American Life*, listen to Prologue and Act 1 (about 45 minutes) here: <http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/77/pray>

Takehome Midterm: Instructions/prompts will be provided by Oct. 15, due October 29

Book Review- 1000 Words Due By the Time we Discuss the Book in Class: Write a review on one of the assigned biographies (except Book of Mormon Girl). You must identify and evaluate the thesis, arguments, and themes of the book. Pay attention to the construction and organization of the book and assess its effectiveness. Make sure you are analyzing the book and not just summarizing the main ideas. A model book review will be given out in class.

Final Papers: Each student will prepare an 8-10 page research paper that will be a short analytical biography (such as we have read all semester) of some figure in American religious history. Students will choose topics in consultation with Instructors. More information to be distributed later.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Disability Accommodation Statement: <http://www.uccs.edu/dservice/faculty/syllabus-statement.html>

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of material from others without attribution. Plagiarism will result in an automatic F for this course. Please see plagiarism policy at <http://www.uccs.edu/las/las-plagiarism-policy.html>

Writing Center: UCCS offers free writing support at The Writing Center at Columbine Hall, room 316. Students of all skill levels can benefit from working with peer consultants at any stage of the writing process be it brainstorming, drafting, or final editing. Learn more by visiting <http://www.uccs.edu/~writingcenter/> or calling 719-255-4336.