

DRAFT!!

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THEO 155 (Summer 2017) ADAM and EVE

This course looks at the story of Adam and Eve, especially as it is found in the Bible's Book of Genesis. It examines the history of Muslim, Jewish, Christian and non-religious interpretations of the story, as well as contemporary issues related to it. These issues include humans' role in the natural world, the meaning of death, evolution/creationism, moral decision-making, the origins of evil, gender relations, race relations, and sexuality.

COURSE READINGS:

Various readings available on-line via CANVAS (canvas.georgetown.edu)
Kvam, ed., *Eve and Adam* (Bloomington: Indiana U. Press, 1999), ISBN: 0253212715

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Regular, punctual attendance (see Note #2 below)

Midterm Exam 50%

Final Exam 50%

NOTES

1. In keeping with the emphasis in this class on your own thoughts and ideas, academic honesty is expected. **ANY INSTANCE OF CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM WILL BE REFERRED TO THE HONOR COUNCIL.** Any work found to have been plagiarized will receive a failing grade.
2. It is expected that all students will attend all class sessions. **MORE THAN ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL AFFECT A STUDENT'S GRADE IN THE COURSE.** Absences will be considered "excused" if they are due to a mandatory university-sponsored activity such as required travel for athletic events, to religious observance, or to illness. In all cases, students are responsible for material missed due to absences.
3. Students may erase one (but only one!) absence by visiting a museum exhibit a lecture on campus or elsewhere. Please submit a summary (no more than one page long) of your experience as evidence of your attendance.
4. If you are unable to attend class, please notify me via phone or e-mail as early as possible. It is your responsibility to obtain notes from the missed class. If you miss three classes in a row due to illness, please obtain a doctor's note.
5. Students may not use laptops in the classroom without the special permission of the professor.
6. As a safety measure, students should retain one copy of every paper that they hand in and should retain all course assignments until they have received their final grades.
7. If you wish to contest a grade, you may do so in writing within two weeks of my handing the assignment back. You should include a copy of the graded assignment and a typed explanation of why you feel the grade was inappropriate.
8. **Work turned in late will lose 5 points per day.** Exceptions will be made **ONLY** in case of serious illness. A computer virus is not considered a serious illness.
9. Class sessions may be taped only with the express permission of the instructor.

READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK #1

Cracking the Binding

Monday, June 5, 2017 No Reading

Reading and Rereading Genesis 1-5

Tuesday, June 6 Kvam 1-26 (Note: This will take you a while to read.)

Wednesday, June 7 Kvam 26-40, 430-44

Early Jewish Readings

Thursday, June 8 CANVAS: Ginzberg, excerpts from *Legends of the Jews*

WEEK #2

Early Christian Readings

Monday, June 12 1. Kvam 108-19, 130-32
2. CANVAS: Pagels 127-50

Tuesday, June 13 CANVAS: Augustine, *The City of God* (excerpts)

Eve and the Virgin Mary

Wednesday, June 14 CANVAS: Warner 34-67

The Middle Ages

Thursday, June 15 Kvam 156-61, 178-203

WEEK #3

Monday, June 19 Kvam 161-77, 203-48

Poetry and Art

Tuesday, June 20 CANVAS: Anderson 1-20
CANVAS: Ancient Homily, "The Lord Descends Into Hell"

Wednesday, June 21 1. Kvam 249-61, 287-304
 2. CANVAS: *Paradise Lost* Book 5 (excerpts)

Thursday, June 22 **MIDTERM EXAM**

WEEK #4

Slavery and Women's Rights

Monday, June 26 Kvam 305-56, 483-502

Darwin, Evolution, and Creationism

Tuesday, June 27 1. CANVAS: Dawkins 31-57
 2. CANVAS: Haught xi-11 and 177-89

Wednesday, June 28 CANVAS: Tillich 85-113

Thursday, June 29 CANVAS: Moran 1-27

WEEK #5

Gender, Sexuality, and Utopian Communities

Monday, July 3 Watch the movie *Pleasantville* (available on CANVAS)

Tuesday, July 4 NO CLASS: INDEPENDENCE DAY

Wednesday, July 5 Review and Wrap-Up

Thursday, July 6 **FINAL EXAM**