

Rel 260 - 70 (1 credit)
A Journey on the Nile:
Ancient Egyptian Religion, Art and Culture
Spring 2010

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SYLLABUS

Outcomes, Objectives, and Methods of Evaluation

Students enrolled in Rel 260 will experience the following course outcomes:

- An understanding of ancient Egyptian religion, art and culture that moves beyond the stereotypes frequently encountered in American popular culture.
- First hand exposure to a developing Islamic society and knowledge about traveling in the Middle East.
- Application of the insights derived from the course to help mitigate cultural stereotypes of “the other” that are frequently encountered in the media when reporting about Islamic societies.
- Understanding the nature of everyday life in ancient Egypt and the relationship between religion, art and culture in each of the major periods of Egyptian history.
- An understanding of ancient Egyptian history that examines both the continuity of tradition and also explores the dynamics of change.

Itinerary

Students enrolled in the course are also enrolled with Passports, Inc. and will participate in their “Egyptian Kingdom” tour from January 7-16, 2010. All financial arrangements for participating in the tour through Passports, Inc. are separate from the cost of enrolling in Rel 260 and are the responsibility of each student. Each student is also responsible for obtaining their own passport, vaccinations and Egyptian visas.

The class will meet 1 time in the fall (2009) in preparation for the trip:

Saturday, November 7:

Trip details – immunizations, passport, visa etc.
Course overview
eCollege description and planning
Description of the readings
Traveling in developing nations – Dr. Richardson
Dress – Kenza Glass

Course Requirements

Grades for the course will be based on the following:

- A journal of the trip. The journal will include daily entries with emphasis on participant observation both of the antiquities and of modern Egyptian society and culture.

THE HONOR CODE

Students are expected to abide by the principles of the college's honor policy throughout the course. The Honor Code policy can be found in the Customs Book. Any violation will be dealt with according to college procedure.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is “the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work,” (The Random House College Dictionary, Revised Edition, New York: Random House, 1975, p. 1014). The Cedar Crest College Faculty Handbook (Book Four, Article B, Section 3, p. 14) further defines it:

Any language taken from another source, whether individual words or entire paragraphs, must be placed within quotation marks and attributed to the source, following the citation format specified by the instructor. Paraphrased material from an outside source must also be attributed. In addition, if the student is indebted to another source for a specific perspective or a line of argument—regardless of whether the student has directly quoted the source or not—that debt must be acknowledged.

In consideration of these ideas, all Religious Studies courses will treat plagiarism in the following ways. Inadvertent plagiarism, the occasional failure to include a citation or the occasional use of a phrase from another source or the omission of a reference, represents sloppy scholarship and is subject to the loss of points on the paper or examination on which it occurs. However, the importation of either complete sentences or paragraphs from an external source and integrating them within the body of a paper constitutes plagiarism and will result in a failing grade being given for the entire course.

Academic papers or projects submitted for another college course cannot be re-submitted for any Religious Studies course without the permission of both instructors. Dual submission of papers is a violation of academic policy and will result in a failure for the course.

INTERNET SOURCES

Internet sources on all academic papers must be used with discretion since they represent a surface level of research and are often not subjected to peer review prior to publication. Research papers must include at least ten sources and no more than four internet citations with the exception of on line journals and academic papers available on educational (.edu) sites. Encyclopedias (including Wikipedia) cannot be cited as resources in research papers.

GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR PAPERS

An “A” paper must have:

- Excellence in the creative and critical presentation of an argument relevant to the assignment.
- A clearly identified thesis or central idea.

- A structure that connects the ideas in the paper with the thesis.
- A complete bibliography or “works cited” page(s) in appropriate format.
- Clearly articulated relevance and significance of the subject matter.
- The paper must be grammatically correct and relatively free from errors in grammar, syntax or spelling. It must also contain appropriate references in the text and follow an accepted style system.

A “B” paper must have:

- A clearly identified thesis or central idea.
- A structure that relates to the thesis but may lack some connections.
- A bibliography or “works cited” page(s) that is relatively free from error.
- Appropriate connections with the assignment.
- The paper must be relatively free from errors in grammar, syntax or spelling. It must also contain appropriate references in the text and follow an accepted style system.

A “C” paper is identified by:

- A poorly constructed central idea and the absence of a thesis.
- Poor structure.
- Incomplete bibliography, “works cited” and references in the text.
- Appropriate connections with the assignment.
- Errors in grammar, syntax or spelling.

A “D” paper is identified by:

- No central idea.
- Little or no structure.
- Incomplete or missing bibliography, “works cited” and references in the text.
- Abundant errors in grammar, syntax or spelling.
- Unclear or confused relationship to the assignment.

A failing paper is identified by:

- No central idea or structure.
- Failure to include bibliography “works cited” or references in the text.
- Abundant errors in grammar, syntax or spelling.
- Lack of relationship to the assignment.