

A. Division: Academic Date: October 28, 1987

 B. Department: Social Sciences New Course:

 Revision of Course Information Form:

 Dated: March 1975

 C. ANT 130 D. The Anthropology of Religion E. 3
 Subject & Course No. Descriptive Title Semester Credits

F. Calendar Description:

An introduction to the comparative study of religion, especially beliefs and rituals which differ from those of the major world religions. The role of religion in social life will be examined through selected classic ethnographic examples, and there will be some consideration of various theories about the universality of religious and magical beliefs and practices.

 Summary of Revisions:
 (Enter date and Section Revised)
 e.g. 1982-08-25
 Section C,E,F, and R.

1987-10-28

 F, H, N, O, P
 Q, R

G. Type of Instruction:		Hours Per Week / Per Semester	H. Course Prerequisites:
Lecture	<u>4</u>	Hrs.	<u>Nil</u>
Laboratory	_____	Hrs.	I. Course Corequisites:
Seminar	_____	Hrs.	<u>Nil</u>
Clinical Experience	_____	Hrs.	J. Courses for which this Course is a Pre-requisite:
Field Experience	_____	Hrs.	<u>Nil</u>
Practicum	_____	Hrs.	K. Maximum Class Size:
Shop	_____	Hrs.	<u>35</u>
Studio	_____	Hrs.	
Student Directed Learning	_____	Hrs.	
Other (Specify)	_____	Hrs.	
Total	<u>4</u>	Hrs.	

L. College Credit Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M. Transfer Credit: Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>
College Credit Non-Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Granted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non-Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as Appropriate)	
		U.B.C. ANT 1½ units	
		S.F.U. type 2 = S.A. 100 level (3)	
		U. Vic. ANT 100 level 1.5	
		Other	

Course Designer(s) Simon Foulds
 Director / Chairperson Kathleen Heggie Hunter
 Divisional Dean P. H. Douglas
 Registrar [Signature]

N. Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):

A text or reader, as selected by the Anthropology discipline, such as:

Lehmann, Arthur C. and Myers, James. E. Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion: an anthropological study of the supernatural. Mayfield Publishing Company, Palo Alto, 1985.

Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings: O. Course Objectives; P. Course Content;
Q. Method of Instruction; R. Course Evaluation

C. Course Objectives:

The student will gain:

- An understanding of how a social scientific approach to religion can be justified, and how this differs from that of the philosopher, theologian, etc.
- An informed understanding of the relations of religion to science and technology, and history, in societies lacking a literate tradition.
- A broad familiarity with a number of classic ethnographies in this sub-field, and with the range of beliefs and practices found currently outside world religions.
- A general appreciation of the social and personal function of religions, and of how religions may be conservative or radical forces in social life.
- The student should come to appreciate the particularity of the Judeo-Christian-Islamic tradition, and of societies with large numbers of atheists/agnostics.

P. Course Content:

1. A social scientific approach to religion
Questions of the definition of religion and cognate beliefs and practices.
2. Religion, science and history - their relations in technically advanced and in non-literate societies.
3. The anatomy of religion:
 - a) the sacred and the profane: beliefs and rituals
 - b) mythology and cosmology
 - c) symbolism in myth and ritual
 - d) rituals, taboos and prohibitions
 - e) religious specialists and practitioners
 - f) religion and medicine, religion and drug use
 - g) the otiose god, spirits, ghosts, ancestors
 - h) totemism and animism
 - i) differentiating magic and religion
 - j) witchcraft, sorcery, and divination

Subject and Course Number**P. Course Content cont'd.**

4. The social organization of various types of religious experience.
The social and personal function of religion.
5. Religion and political and social change - syncretism and millenarianism.

Q. Method of Instruction:

This course will be presented mainly by way of lectures, with class discussion of selected ethnographic material. This may be supplemented by films, slides, or videos.

R. Course Evaluation:

Evaluation will be based on course objectives, and will be in keeping with current College policy, and may include a combination of the following:

1. a series of examinations up to 30% each.
2. an individual/group assignment, paper or presentation up to 30 % each.
3. a shorter take-home examination or open-book test up to 20% each.