

**PHIL 5600.004 Religion and Science
Spring 2008**

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Class Location: GAB 406
Meeting time: T,Th 3:30-4:50
Office Hours: T, Th 2:00-3:15
and by appointment

Course Description:

Religion and Science examines the complex historical and contemporary relationship between sciences and religion. The historical section of the course will focus on Western history including the rise of modern science and “the Galileo Affair.” The course will also involve a study of typologies of the relationship between science and religion and theoretical similarities and differences between the disciplines. Finally, we will examine contemporary issues in science and religion such as religion and ecology, intelligent design, and the expansion of theories of science and religion to include non-Western religious traditions.

Materials:

- 1) Books to purchase:
 - a) Barbour, Ian G. *Religion and Science: Historical and Contemporary Issues* Revised and Expanded edition of *Religion in an Age of Science*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1990.
 - b) Brooke, *Science and Religion: Some Historical Perspectives*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
 - c) Dembski, William A. (Baylor University) and Ruse, Michael (Florida State University) *Debating Design: From Darwin to DNA* Cambridge University Press New York 2004 I do not have a copy, please request one for me.
 - d) Drake, Stillman, *Galileo: A Very Short Introduction* New York: Oxford University Press, 1980.
 - e) Muzaffar Iqbal *Islam and Science* Ashgate Publishing Company Burlington, VT Science and Religion Series 2002.
 - f) Richardson, Mark A. and Wesley J. Wildman. *Religion and Science: History, Method, Dialogue*. New York: Routledge, 1996.
 - g) Nasr, Seyyed Hossein. *The Need for a Sacred Science*. New York: State University of New York Press 1993. ISBN 079141518X – **note: this book is available as an electronic book through the UNT library.**
 - h) Another book or two may be added to the list after we pick our contemporary issues. There will be sufficient time to obtain such materials.
- 2) Online Materials
 - i) Locate online materials well in advance of the date they are due. Last-minute computer problems are not a good excuse for coming to class without reading. Bring all online readings to class, either as a printout or on a laptop.
 - b) Articles, as indicated below, will be posted on the course website located at <https://ecampus.unt.edu/webct/entryPage.dowebct> . You will need to login using your EUID and password to access the course website.
 - c) Online articles. Some articles will be available from webpages other than our course site. URLs and/or detailed instructions for locating these articles will be listed on the reading schedule below.
- 3) Copies of the syllabus, assignment sheets, etc. will be posted on the website.

Grading:

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

20%	Participation, including response paper to one outside of class lecture. Dates listed on schedule.
10%	Evaluation of Religion and Ecology text
20%	Class Presentations
50%	Final Paper

Final grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Tips for Success:

1. Read each assignment carefully before class.
2. Write a page summary of the reading
3. Write 3-4 questions for discussion.

Policy on Timeliness:

Papers are due in class at the beginning of the scheduled meeting time. Late papers will be docked 5% per day late and should be turned in via email AND hard copy. If you have printer problems at the last minute, email me your assignment and bring a hard copy to me as soon as possible. I will count your paper as turned in at the time I receive the emailed document.

Student Code of Conduct –

Students are expected to follow the UNT Student Code of Conduct. Quizzes and tests are closed book, closed notes, individual events unless the professor says otherwise. Well before papers are due we will discuss plagiarism and proper citation format in class. Cheating and/or plagiarism can result in a F for the assignment or for the course. The UNT Student Code of Conduct defines plagiarism as follows: “The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: (a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.”

(http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume3/18_1_11.html)

****ASK if you have questions.****

Writing Center

The University Writing Center can help students with all stages of the writing process. Students who take their papers to writing centers generally improve that paper AND their writing in the future. See http://www.engl.unt.edu/facilities/facilities_university_writing.htm for more information.

Disabilities

The Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please register with the Office of Disability Accommodations and let me know how I can help you so the necessary arrangements can be made. See <http://www.unt.edu/oda/> for more information.

Schedule

***Reading assignments listed for a class should be read BEFORE that class.

Date	Reading Assignment
T 1/20	Introduction.
Th 1/22	<p>What is religion? What is science? Smart, Ninian. "Introduction" in <i>Dimensions of the Sacred: An Anatomy of the World's Beliefs</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996.</p> <p>"Science and Its Origins," 1-20; "The Greeks and the Cosmos" 21-45; and "Aristotle's Philosophy of Nature" 46-68 in Lindberg, David G. <i>The Beginnings of Western Science: The European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, 600B.C. to A.D. 1450</i>. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992.</p>
T 1/27	<p>Lindberg, David C. "Science and the Early Church" in <i>God and Nature: Historical Essays on the Encounter between Christianity and Science</i>, ed David C Linberg and Ronald L. Numbers, 19-48. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986.</p> <p>"Science and Islam" in Lindberg, David G. <i>The Beginnings of Western Science: The European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, 600B.C. to A.D. 1450</i>. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992.</p>
Th 1/29	<p>Grant, Edward "How Foundations of Early Modern Science were Laid in the Middle Ages" in <i>The Foundations of Modern Science in the Middle Ages: Their Religious, Institutional, and Intellectual Contexts</i>. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996. (I am waiting for an interlibrary loan copy of this chapter. If it does not come in time I will summarize it in class.)</p> <p>Grant, Edward. "Science and Theology in the Middle Ages" in <i>God and Nature: Historical Essays on the Encounter between Christianity and Science</i>, ed David C Linberg and Ronald L. Numbers, 49-75. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986.</p>
T 2/3	<p>The Seventeenth Century Drake, Stillman, <i>Galileo, A Very Short Introduction</i> New York: Oxford University Press, 1980.</p>
W 2/4	*Mary Evelyn Tucker lecture at TCU at 7pm register in advance.
Th 2/5	Barbour, ch 1 Brooke, 2-4
T 2/10	<p>The Eighteenth Century Barbour, ch 2 Brooke, Ch 5-6 Brooke in Richardson and Wildman, 7-28</p>
Th 2/12	Continue readings from Tuesday

T 2/17	The Nineteenth Century Barbour Religion and Science ch 3 Brooke Science and Religion Ch 7-8 Welch in Richardson and Wildman Religion and Science 29-40
Th 2/19	Continue readings from Tuesday
T 2/24	Schemas of the Relationship between Science and Religion Barbour Religion and Science Ch 4 Peters, Ted, ed. <i>Science & Theology: The New Consonance</i> , Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1998 11-22 Drees, Willem B. <i>Religion, Science and Naturalism</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. 39-49.
Th 2/26	No class
T 3/3	Method in Science and Religion Barbour, ch 5-6
Th 3/5	Richardson and Wildman Part II
F 3/6 & Sat 3/7	*Environmental Justice conference at UNT – attend at least one session.
T 3/10	A Challenge to the “Traditional” literature on Science and Religion: Islamic Perspectives Iqbal, Introduction, chapters 1-6
Th 3/12	Iqbal, <i>Islam and Science</i> chapters 7-11
T 3/17	Spring Break
Th 3/19	Spring Break
T 3/24	Nasr, <i>The Need for a Sacred Science</i> Introduction, part 1 and 2
Th 3/26	Nasr, <i>The Need for a Sacred Science</i> Introduction, part 3 and 4
T 3/31	Contemporary Issues: Darwin’s Legacy -- time spent on this subject may vary... Dupree, A. Hunter. “Christianity and the Scientific Community in the Age of Darwin.” 351-368 Gregory, Frederick. “The Impact of Darwinian Evolution on Protestant Theology in the Nineteenth Century.” 369-390 Numbers, Ron L. “The Creationists.” 391-423. <i>All God and Nature: Historical Essays on the Encounter between Christianity and Science</i> , ed David C Linberg and Ronald L. Numbers, 49-75. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986. Abstract for final papers due today.
Th 4/2	Dembski and Ruse, <i>Debating Design</i> Introduction and Part 1

T 4/7	Dembski and Ruse, <i>Debating Design</i> Parts 2 and 3
Th 4/9	Dembski and Ruse, <i>Debating Design</i> Part 4, Dover case article (TBA)
T 4/14	Contemporary Issues: Religion and Ecology Readings TBA
Th 4/16	Readings TBA
T 4/21	Contemporary Issues 3: Stem Cells
Th 4/23	Readings TBA
T 4/28	Contemporary Issues 4: ?? Readings TBA
Th 4/30	Readings TBA
T 5/5	Paper presentations Paper drafts may be turned in today if you want comments before you submit for a grade.
Th 5/7	Paper presentations
Th 5/14	Finals Week – paper due, presentations on papers.

Write short paper discussing the elements of science and religion present in Tucker's presentation. Discuss why she takes this approach.

Possibilities for contemporary issues include

- Big Bang and Cosmology
- Chaos Theory and Divine Action
- Information Theory and Revelation
- Neuroscience and Personhood – divine action project volume, the embodied mind
- Artificial Intelligence
- Environment and Religion
- Stem Cells
- Genetic Engineering
- Spirituality and Health
- Climate Change