

Sociology of Religion Online
Sociology 3440-090, Spring 2019
University of Utah

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I. Goals and Learning Outcomes:

The primary goal of this class is to give students a sociological understanding of religion as a powerful social institution that is associated with many social processes that motivate and influence how people act and understand the world around them. The class relies upon a variety of methods that include comparative analysis, theoretical explanations, ethnographic studies, and empirical studies designed to help students better understand religion and its impact upon societies, global-international events, and personal well-being. The materials and activities are designed to give students a more knowledgeable, intimate, and direct grasp of religion that will supersede many common misconceptions regarding religion. This overview of the functioning and diversity of religious institutions should help students make more discerning decisions regarding cultural, political, and moral issues that are influenced by religion.

In addition to readings and assigned videos, students will engage the materials in online lectures found on the canvas page under Page, and in discussions wherein students can post up with responses and questions regarding the class materials. Students may also write papers on a variety of subjects and exercises where they may also participate in various religious organizations and events. By the end of the semester students should have a good grasp of key sociological assumptions and their application to religion, along with a deeper understanding of the multidimensional nature of religion and its influence. This course meets the Social and Behavioral Science Intellectual Exploration (BF) requirement.

II. Topics to Be Covered:

The course is laid out in three parts. The first section begins with a review of conventional and theoretical conceptions of religion and an overview of the importance and centrality of religion to human societies. It emphasizes the diversity and nature of "religious experience" in terms of different denominations, cultures, classes, and

individuals. This is followed by overview of sociological assumptions and theories and their application to religion. Functionalism, conflict theory, exchange theory, sociology of knowledge, sociobiology, feminist theory, symbolic interactionism, postmodern and critical theory will all be addressed in terms of their relevance to understanding religion.

The second part of the course begins with a comparative analysis of the major religions in terms of beliefs, values, norms, practices, and rituals as seen from different theoretical points of view and a variety of methods including ethnography, statistical, historical and critical methods. This comparative analysis surveys Western, Eastern, New Age, and Native American religions, and unaffiliated groups according to their defining beliefs and practices, and concludes with an analysis of the major commonalities and differences between Eastern and Western Religions, Alternative, Native American religions, and unaffiliated groups that include agnostics, atheists and existentialists.

The third part of the addresses issues associated with modernity, fundamentalism, and terrorism. This section also contains a critical analysis of religion in terms of the extent to which it can be constructive and destructive, and both an impediment to needed social change and an impetus for powerful positive social movements.

Throughout the course issues associated with social change, patriarchy, prejudice, violence, sexism, conflicts between science and religion, modernity, and the separation of church and state will be addressed. The course concludes with a study of master trends in religion in the 21st century, and the role that religion and spirituality may possibly play in meeting the challenges and problems of our age.

III. Papers:

Final papers constitute 25% of a student's grade. In order to accommodate a variety of possible subjects and methods and various student interests and writing styles, there are 6 options for student papers. All papers will be evaluated in terms of the student's ability to write effectively and insightfully while honestly engaging and utilizing the concepts, theories, data, and historical materials addressed in class.

For the first option the student can do participant observer or ethnographic research on a religion or religious practice. This will entail spending time throughout the semester, at least six events, in a particular religious institution or group that she is not affiliated with and record her experiences in a journal. After completing the journal entries, in the paper the student will summarize the journal entries, noting any particular patterns or events or beliefs that seemed salient and important, and then address what she has learned and how it may relate to theory, concepts and research studied in the class, and any moral or spiritual significance it may have.

The second option entails making a consistent daily attempt to live by specific religious principles or emulate a religious role model, say Jesus, Moses, Gandhi, Mohammad, Buddha, the Dalai Lama, Martin Luther King or Albert Schweitzer for a period of at least 4 days or more. As an ethnography or breaching experiment, the student will record his experience and the reactions of others. Then in a paper she will analyze them in terms of what she has learned and how it relates to any theory or concepts discussed in class along with any relevant moral or political issues.

The third option allows the student to write a formal research paper that addresses a particular religious practice such as prayer, meditation, circumcision, religious clothing, faith, or sacraments. These papers should address the effect these practices and traditions have upon human wellbeing and associated moral and political issues such as freedom, sexism, patriarchy, inequality, the separation of church and state, modernity, and religious extremism. Students may also use this option to address the extent to which religious traditions, social movements, and social organizations have and can promote constructive solutions to a variety of social, moral, and political issues. For this research paper option a student may also use content analysis or develop a hypothesis regarding religion and carry out an appropriate experiment or survey that will shed light on it. Students doing surveys or experiments should clear their topics with me before starting.

The fourth option entails writing a comparative analysis of any two religions or religious and philosophical perspectives. For example, this could entail comparing Catholicism with Buddhism, eastern religions with western religions or comparing western religion or eastern religion to existentialism, agnosticism to religious zealotry, science and religion, or faith versus skepticism. When appropriate, students should apply concepts and research from class, and they should address religions other than the one they may be associated with.

The fifth option entails writing a sociological analysis or response to one of the books or movies on the suggested readings and movies lists. These papers should summarize major themes and ideas and conclude with a critical analysis of the book or movie in terms of concepts and research addressed in the class and its moral and human significance.

The sixth option allows students to summarize what they found to be the most important and significant ideas and concepts regarding religion that were addressed in the class. This paper may focus upon a particular theoretical perspective or concept and or related research and their application to religion and issues associated with religion, or particular historical developments associated with religion that you found enlightening and personally useful. Most importantly, this paper should address what you take away from the class in terms of new insights and their relevance to your life and to how you see the world and developments in the world.

All papers should be 4 – 6 pages double spaced in a reasonable sized font, with a title page and a reference page if needed. You may take up to a maximum of 7 pages, or in some cases more, if you clear it with me. Plagiarism will result in an E grade, so be sure to do your own work, and be consistent following either the ASA, APA or MLA guidelines. My criteria for grading the 60 point papers are as follows:

Up to 30 points if the paper is readable, coherent, and the proper length.

Up to 10 points for correct application of concepts and materials.

Up to 10 points if the paper is thoughtful and insightful.

Up to 5 points if there are no or only a few grammatical or spelling errors.

Up to 5 points if the paper is authentic and creative.

IV: Videos:

Videos are essential to this class. There are three categories of videos, (1) Required, (2) Recommended, and (3) Suggested. Required and Recommended videos can be watched on Canvas. There are about a dozen required videos and they must be watched and will be on exams. Some of these are very short, from 15 to 30 minutes. The Recommended Videos should be watched if you want a deeper grasp of the materials. Suggested videos are videos or full-length movies that you can watch and write a paper about. They are not Canvas. You can find them at the Marriott Library, online, or at local video stores.

Students encouraged to introduce themselves on the online discussion board. The discussion board is a good tool for extended discussions on various topics and a good place to make new friends. Students are advised to try to stay at least one week ahead in studying for the class. Also, while it may appear that there are a lot of readings, know that most of the e-reserve readings are very short, from two to four pages. In addition to doing the readings and watching the videos, the key to doing well in this online class is reflecting on the materials, and clarifying your ideas by speaking up on the discussion board. Also, feel free to email me or call if you have questions or problems.

IV. Exams and Grading

Grading is based on two online exams and a paper. The online exams are objective exams composed of true-false, multiple-choice, and fill in the blank questions. The midterm is worth 70 points, and the final which is not comprehensive is worth 100 points. Before each exam there will be a review, and students may email or call me with specific questions. The paper is worth 60 points, making a total of 230 points possible. Plagiarism will result in an E grade, so be sure to do your own work and use proper citations following either the ASA or APA guidelines.

Extra credit be earned by either (1) reading one of the recommended books and writing a 3 double spaced page summary and its relevance to materials addressed in class for up to 10 points, or (2) by watching one of the recommended online-videos posted online, and submitting a two-page double spaced paper summarizing the significance of the video for up to 5 points. Students cannot do both. Rather than writing on a video, students also have the option of attending one of many religious events or religious speakers that I will announce throughout the semester, and then writing a two page double spaced paper summarizing the event. Videos or books used for final papers cannot be used for extra credit. Students who post up on the discussion board with a comment or response 10 times during the semester can also earn 5 extra credit points, making a total of 20 possible extra credit points. All extra credit work must be completed before the final exam.

The grading scale for the class will be 94-100%=A, 90-93%=A-, 87-89%=B+, 83%=86%=B, 80-82%=B-, 77-79%=C+, 73-76%=C, 70-72%=C-, 67-69%=D+, 63-68%=D, 60-62%=D-, 59 and below=E. If no one or only a few students get 100%, I will add points to all the scores until a number of students get 100%, thus adjusting the curve upward.

In studying for the online objective exams, after reading all the materials and watching assigned videos, I urge all students to go over your lecture notes and then focus on the weekly reviews which will be the source of many questions. Given adequate notice the syllabus may be changed and does not constitute a contract.

Graduate students taking this lower division class for graduate credit must cover the required readings and videos and all the recommended readings and videos, and when relevant, address them in any written exams or papers which may be substantially longer than papers required for undergraduates. All students are invited to access the recommended readings and videos for additional insight and understanding.

V. Texts: There are two texts, some videos, and some E-Reserve Readings which can be accessed on the course Canvas Page by clicking on the appropriate link.

Gods in the Global Village. The World's Religions in Sociological Perspective. Third Edition, Pine Forge Press, 2012

God and His Demons. Michael Parenti, Prometheus Books, 2010

VI. Sexual Misconduct

According to Title IX, harassment based on sex and gender is a civil rights offense. If you are harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For Support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677.

VII. Students with Disabilities

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs and services for people with disabilities. If you need special accommodations, prior notice should be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor, and with prior notification, make course information available in alternative formats. (www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty)

VIII. Course Outline

[Week One \(Jan.7\): Introduction / Defining and Studying Religion / Religious Vocabulary](#)

- Gods in the Global Village Chapter One: Religious Life in the Global Village.
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction, Wade Clark Roof (1-4)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Classical Sociological Definitions of Religion, Patricia Chang (5-8)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Elementary Forms of the Religious life, Emile Durkheim. (9-14)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: From Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Law, Karl Marx (15-16)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Religion as a Cultural System, Clifford Geertz (16-22)

- Online Video: The Amish (Required)

- Online Lectures: Intro and 1-3

Week Two (January 14): Basic Sociological Model and Religion / Institutions and the Social Order / Social Roles & Identity/ Status / Class / Stratification, Authority / Power / Social Change

- God's in the Global Village. Chapter Five. The Religious Ethos
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- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Religious Organizations, Institutions, and Authority, Susanne C. Monahan (225-230)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Race, Ethnicity, and Religion, Michael Emerson (78-79)
- E-Reserve: Mountain People. Colin N. Turnbull
- E-Reserve, Jonestown as Perverse Utopia, Rose Laub Coser.
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Social Class and Religion, William Mirola (144-150)
- **Recommended Online Video: Bill Moyers Interview with Ann Provost on the Bible as literature**

Online Lectures: 4 - 9

Week Three, (January 21): Sociological Theory and Religion: Functionalism, Comte, Spencer and Durkheim on Religion

- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Belief and Ritual, Susanne Monahan (30-34)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: The Sacred Canopy, Peter L. Berger (23-29)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Religious Experience, William MacDonald Angels, and Kenneth Woodward. (55-57)
- Online Video: Magic and Religion (Required)
- Online Video: The Polygamists (Required)
- **Recommended E-Reserve. The Sacred Canopy; Elements of a Sociological Theory of Religion. Peter L. Berger, Chapter Three, The Problem of Theodicy**
- Online Lectures 10-13

Week Four, (Jan.28): Sociological Theory and Religion: Merton on Strain, Deviance and Religion,

- God and His Demons. Part I. All in the Bible.
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Ways of Seeing Ecstasy in Modern Society: Experiential-Expressive and Cultural-Linguistic Views., David Yamane, Megan Polzer (70-77)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Salvation on Sand Mountain, Gaines (37-42)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Gender and Religion, Lori Beaman (115-117)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Introduction to Sexual Identity and Religion, William Mirola. (173-175)
- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion Reader: Negotiating a Religious Identity: The Case of the Gay Evangelical, Scott Thumma (189-195)

- Online Video: Bill Moyers On Faith and Reason. Salmon Rushdie (Required)
- Online Video Abundance Theology, (14 minute clip) (Required)
- Online Video Elmer Gantry (15 minute clip) (Required)

- **Recommended E-Reserve, Escape From Evil, Chapter 8, Social Evil.**
- **Recommended Video. Martin Luther King, "I Have a Dream."**
- **Recommended Video: Pink Smoke Over the Vatican. (religion and sexism)**

- Online Lectures 14-17

Week Five. (February 4): Marx, Conflict Theory and Religion.

- God and His Demons Part II. Divine Design
- God and His Demons Part III. When the Ethereal Becomes Material
- E-Reserve Downloading God, "Big Box Churches, and the Crystal Shop around the Corner; Religious Adaption in the High Tech, Digital Age," Religion Matters, Emerson, Mirola, and Monahan

- **Recommended Online Audio Lecture: The Political Uses of Religion. Michael Parenti**
- **Recommended Online Video: Evil in the Modern World (Susan Neiman and Bill Moyers)**

- Online Lectures 18-20

Week Six. (February 11: Parenti on Religion / Conclusions on Conflict Theory

- God and His Demons. Part IV. Hypocrites, Reactionaries and Vipers
- God and His Demons. Part V. Theocracy, Past, Present and Future
- Online Video: Purpose Driven Life (required)
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- Online Lectures 21- 22

Week Seven: (February 18): Exchange Theory and Religion / Gods, the Devil, Evil and Faith as Social Constructions and the Interpretive Turn in terms of Functionalism, Conflict and Exchange Theory:

- Gods in the Global Village Chapter 3. The Tour: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. (Judaism, Christianity)
- E-Reserve, The World As I See It. Albert Einstein. Religion & Science
- Video: Ten Commandments: History Channel (Required)
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- Online Lectures 23-24

Week Eight: (February 25): Midterm Review, Midterm March 1-2 before midnight on lectures and readings for Weeks 1-6)

- Online Video: Western Religions (Required)
- Online Video: Inside Islam. (Required)
- Online Video: The Twentieth Century, True Believers (Required)
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- Midterm Review
- Online Midterm March 2-3 All assigned readings and videos for Weeks 1-6 and Lectures 1-24

Week Nine: (March 4): Symbolic Interactions, Soc. of Knowledge and Religion.

- Gods In the Global Village: Chapter 2, Turning East
- God's in the Global Village. Chapter 4, Indigenous Religions
- **Recommended E-Reserve: Think on These Things. Krishnamurti, Education: pp 1-26.**
- **Recommended E-Reserve: Gandhi on Non-Violence, by Thomas Merton,**
- **E-Reserve Mini Ching (Divination), Sheila Heti, Harper's Mag. July 2013**
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- Online Lectures 25-28

Week Eleven: (March 11): (No Class, Spring Break)

- Online Video: A Common Destiny, Hopi (Required) (50 minutes)
- Online Video: Lust for Life (14 minute clip) (Required).
- Online Video: Bill Moyers on Faith and Reason: Interview with Colin McGinn Atheist (Required) (30 minutes)
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- Optional lectures on specific Eastern, Western, Alternative and Native Religious beliefs and customs are available online (lectures 41-46) but are not required.

Recommended Online Video: Religulous with Bill Maher

Week Eleven: (March 18) Axial Age, Pre-Axial Age, Polytheism to Monotheism Zoroastrianism / Judaism / Ten Commandments / Separation Church and State

- Optional online Lectures 41-46 for Graduate Students and Undergraduate students interested in the specifics of Eastern, Western, Native and Alternative Religions. (not required, but recommended)
- E-Reserve Spiral Dance, Starhawk, Chapter One
- E-Reserve: Emma Goldman, "The Philosophy of Atheism," Mark Twain, "Thoughts of God," and "A Pen Warmed Up in Hell," Albert Einstein, Selected Writing on Religion, Salman Rushdie, "Imagine There's No Heaven," from The Portable Atheist, Christopher Hitchens Editor. (20 pages)
- E-Reserve Lower Than Angels: Benjamin Hale, Harper's Magazine 6/11
- Online Video: Bill Moyers On Faith and Reason: Interview with Pema Chodron on Buddhism
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- Online Lectures 29-30

Week Twelve: (March 25) Agnostics / Atheists / Existentialists / Comparative Analysis of East, West / Alternative and Native American Religions

- Online Video: Bill Moyers on Faith and Reason. Interview with Mary Gordon (Christian)
- **Recommended E-Reserve: Sils-Maria, Obituary Notice, Friedrich Nietzsche**
- **Recommended E.-Reserve God Is Not Great: How God Poisons Everything, Christopher Hitchens**
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- Online Lectures 32-36

- [Week Thirteen: \(April 1\): Philosophical, Biological, Psychological, and Anthropological views on the Origins Religion and Magic \(Zeitlin\)](#)
- Gods in the Global Village: Chapter 6, Modernism and Multiculturalism.
- E-Reserve Primates and Philosophers: How Morality Evolved Frans De Wall, Princeton University Press, 2006, Introduction pp. x-xix.
- E-Reserve: The Moral Landscape. Sam Harris, pp. 145-152
- Online Video: Jesus Camp (Required)
- Recommended E-Reserve. The God Delusion, Richard Dawkins, Chapter Five.
- Recommended E-Reserve. Flesh of my Flesh, Daniel Bergner
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- Online Lectures 37-40

[Week Fourteen: \(April 8\): Crisis of Modernity, Conflict, Cults.](#)

- E-Reserve: Sociology of Religion, Lundscow, Chapter 7, Cults.
- E-Reserve: Beyond Fundamentalism: Confronting Religious Extremism in the Age of Globalization, Reza Aslan. Prologue and Introduction
- Online Video: Inside the Mind of a Suicide Bomber (Required)
- Recommended E-Reserve, Terror in the Mind of God, Mark Juergensmeyer
- Recommended E-Reserve: Infidel, Ayann Hirisi, Chapter Two. Recommended E-Reserve: Acts of Faith, The Story of An American Muslim, The Struggle for the Soul of a Generation, Eboo Patel
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- Online Lectures 47-50

[Week Fifteen: \(April 15\): Religious Sages and Wisdom / Fundamentalism / Terrorism.](#)

- Gods in the Global Village. Chapter 8. Religion and Social Conflict.
- Fields of Blood: Religion and Violence, Afterword, Karen Armstrong
- Online Video: Bright Light: When Spirit Meets Action, (Spiritual and religious social activism) (Required)

- Recommended E-Reserve, *The True Believer, The Desire for Substitutes*, Eric Hoffer,
- Recommended E-Reserve, *The Causes of World War Three*, Chapter 21, *A Pagan Sermon*, C. Wright Mills.
- Recommended E-Reserve: *What ISIS Really Wants*, Atlantic Magazine
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- Online Lectures 51-56

Week Sixteen: (April 23): Concluding Interdisciplinary Analysis of Religion as Functional and Dysfunctional. / Trends in Religion, Secularization or New Axial Age, (Lundscow, Armstrong, Walsh, Krisnumurti, Wallis)

- *Gods in the Global Village*. Chapter 7. *Religious Movements for a New Century*. E-Reserve:
- E-Reserve, *On God's Side*, Jim Wallis, Chapter One, *A Gospel For the Common Good*.
- Recommended E-Reserve: *Tomorrow's God*, Neale Donald Walsh, Ch. 1, 2
- Recommended E-Reserve: *Does God Have A Future?* Karen Armstrong
- Recommended E-Reserve: *God's Politics. Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It*. Jim Wallis . Introduction. pp. xvii-xxviii *Why Can't We Talk about Politics*.
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- Online Lectures 57-58
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- Paper Due April 22
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- Online Final on Assigned Readings and Videos for weeks 7-16, Lectures 25-30, 32-40, 47-58, April 25-26

VII. Required Online Videos and Audios

- The Amish (40 min.)
- Religion and Magic (30 min.)
- Ten Commandments (History Channel) (100 min)
- Inside Islam: Religion in the Modern World (100 min.)
- True Believers: In the Modern Century (100 min.)
- The Polygamists (50 min.)
- Jesus Camp (60 min.)
- Inside the Mind of a Suicide Bomber. (60 min.)

- Crisis of Faith (60 min,)
- Colin McGee (Interview with Bill Moyers) 30 minutes
- Elmer Gantry (clip) (Fundamentalism) 14 minutes.
- Lust for Life (clip) (Liberation Theology) 14 minutes.
- Bill Moyers on Faith and Reason: Salmon Rushdie
- Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action, (Spiritual Social Activism)
- The Hopi
- Western Religions (60 min.)
- Bill Moyers Interview with Pema Chadron

VIII. Recommended Online (embedded) Videos

- Bill Moyers Interview with Mary Gordon
- Evil in the Modern World (Susan Neiman and Bill Moyers)
- Michael Parenti, Part One and Two. (audio only)
- Bill Moyers: Ann Provost (Noah's Arc), and David Grossman (Samson)

IX. Suggested Readings:

- 50 Spiritual Classics, Tom Butler-Bowdon
- God's Politics, Jim Wallis (Religious social activism)
- On God's Side, Jim Wallis (Religious activism on politics)
- Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth
- The Victory of Reason: How Christianity Led to Freedom, Capitalism, and Western Success, Rodney Stark
- Why God Won't Go Away, Brain Science & the Biology of Belief, Newberg & Rause
- Why I Am Not A Christian, Bertrand Russell (classic philosophical view or Christianity)
- Civilization and its Discontents, Sigmund Freud
- Varieties of Religious Experience, William James
- Life is a Miracle, Wendell Berry (Deep Ecologist addresses religion and science)
- The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life, Emile Durkheim (classic)
- The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, Max Weber (classic)
- The "God" Part of the Brain, A scientific Interpretation of Human Spirituality and God, Mathew Alper
- Journey to Ixtlan, Carlos Castaneda (60's spirituality and anthropology)
- The Places That Scare You.: A Guide to Fearlessness in Difficult Times. Pema Chodron (Application of Buddhism to modern world)

- The Tao of Physics. The Parallel Between Modern Physics and Eastern Mysticism. Fritjof Capra
- Strong Religion, The Rise of Fundamentalism Around the World, Gabriel A. Almond, R. Scott Appleby, and Emmanuel Sivan
- The True Believer, Eric Hoffer (classic on origins of social movements)
- The Voice of the Buddha. The Dhammapada and other key Buddhist Teachings. Manjusura
- When Religion Becomes Evil, Charles Kimball
- The Denial of Death or Escape From Evil, Ernest Becker
- Consilience, Edward O. Wilson (Debate between science and religion)
- The Sacred Canopy: Elements of a Sociological Theory of Religion, Peter Berger
- The Sociology of Religion, Max Weber
- The End of Faith, Religion, Terror and the Future of Reason, Sam Harris
- Is Religion Killing Us? Violence in the Bible and the Quran, Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer
- Remember, Be Hear Now. Ram Dos
- The Autobiography of Malcolm X. Alex Haley
- Black Elk Speaks. Diary of a Holy Man. John G Neihardt
- The Anatomy of Peace, The Arbinger Institute
- The Devil, Peter Stanford
- A History of God, Fundamentalism, Karen Armstrong
- The Great Transformation, Karen Armstrong (religious trends)
- Wherever You Go There You Are, Jon Kabat Zinn (Buddhist applications to modernity)
- Mountains and More Mountains. Dr. Paul Farmer (modern liberation theology practitioner)
- Under the Banner of Heaven, A Story of Violent Faith, John Krakauer (religious deviance)
- Galileo's Daughter, A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love, Dava Sobel
- The God Delusion, Richard Dawkins
- Beyond Good and Evil, Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche
- Think on These Things, Krishnamurti
- Infidel, Ayaan Hirsi Ali
- Acts of Faith, The Story of An American Muslim. Eboo Patel
- The Angel and the Beehive: The Mormon Struggle with Assimilation, A. L. Mauss
- Mormon America, The Power and the Promise. R. N. Ostling and J. K. Ostling

- Secret Ceremonies, Deborah Laake (Mormon experience with ostracism)
- The Crucible, Arthur Miller (Salem Witch Trials)
- Tomorrow's God: Our Greatest Spiritual Challenge. Neal D. Walsch
- The Portable Atheist, Christopher Hitchens
- God is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything, Christopher Hitchens
- Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know, Steven Prothero
- In the Wake of 9/11: The Psychology of Terror, Pyszczynski, Solomon, & Greenberg (Terror Management Theory)
- Terror in the Mind of God: The Global Rise of Religious Violence, M. Juergensmeyer
- The Razor's Edge, Somerset Maugham (Existentialist novel)
- Siddhartha, Herman Hesse (novel based on life of Siddhartha)
- Beyond the Chains of Illusion, Eric Fromm (critique of religion)
- The Power of Now. Eckhart Tolle (New spirituality & modern world)
- Long Way Gone, Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah (Telling story of boys forced into violent soldiering)
- The Art of War, Sun Tzu (Taoist text) (classic eastern philosophy)
- God's Battalions, The Case for the Crusades, Rodney Stark
- Bearing False Witness. Debunking Centuries of Ant-Catholic Thought, Rodney Stark
- Triumph of Faith: Why The World is More Religious Than Ever, Rodney Stark
- Primates and Philosophers: How Morality Evolved. Frans De Wall
- The World As I See It. Albert Einstein
- Conversations with God. Neal Walsch
- How to Win a Cosmic War, God, Globalization and the End of the War on Terror, Reza Aslan. (Religion and Terrorism)
- The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of The Ancient Religion of the Great Goddess. Starhawk (modern spirituality and shamanism)
- The Way of the Peaceful Warrior. Dan Millman (Buddhist approach to coping with modernity)
- The Qur'an. Bruce Lawrence
- Seven Theories of Religion. Daniel L. Pals
- The Moral Landscape: Sam Harris
- American Jesus: How the Son of God Became a National Icon, Stephen Prothero
- Upanishads (Hindu philosophical meditations)
- Rig-Veda (Hindu hymns to Pantheon of gods)
- Quran (Koran)
- Old or New Testament, Bible

- Torah (First five books of the Bible)
- The Book of Mormon, Joseph Smith
- Wu Ching, (Confucianism, five classic works)
- Sutra Pitka (Discourse of the Buddha)
- Tao Te Ching, Lao Tse (Taoism)
- The Art of Loving, Erich Fromm (classic on living a meaningful life)
- The Art of Being, Erich Fromm (classic on living a meaningful life)
- Escape From Freedom, Erich Fromm (Critique of modernity and capitalism)
- The Happiness Hypothesis, Jonathan Haidt, (Current research on happiness)
- The Lucifer Effect: How Good People Become Evil. Philip C. Zimbardo (Role playing and cruel behavior, authority)
- Why I Am Not an Atheist: Christopher Hedges
- Siddhartha, Herman Hesse
- The Stranger, Albert Camus (Existentialism)
- The New Testament: A Bible for 21st Century Combining Traditional and Newly Discovered Texts: Hal Tausig
- On Violence, Hannah Arendt, (Classic on violence)
- On Totalitarianism, Hannah Arendt) classic
- Buddha's Brain. The Practical Neuroscience of happiness, Love, and Wisdom, Rick Hansen, Richard Mendius (Research on the efficacy of Eastern mental discipline)
- Hardwiring Happiness: The New Brain Science of Contentment, Calm, and Confidence. Rick Hansen, Richard Mendius (Effective cognitive discipline)
- Religion and the History of Violence, Karen Armstrong (Historical analysis of religion and violence)
- The Closing of the Western Mind: The Rise of Faith and the Fall of Reason, Charles Freeman
- How the West Won: The Neglected Story of the Triumph of Modernity. Rodney Stark
- American Grace, How Religion Divides and Unites Us, Robert D. Putnam, David E. Campbell
- Reverence for Life, Albert Schweitzer, (moral philosophy)
- Answering the Call, The Doctor Who Made Africa his Life, Albert Schweitzer, (biography)
- Search for the Historical Jesus, Albert Schweitzer
- The Name of God is Mercy. Pope Francis
- Wake Up: A Guide to Spirituality, Sam Harris
- The Faith Instinct: How Religion Evolved & Why It Endures, Nicholas Wade
- Zorba the Greek, Nicholas Kazantzakis (existentialism)

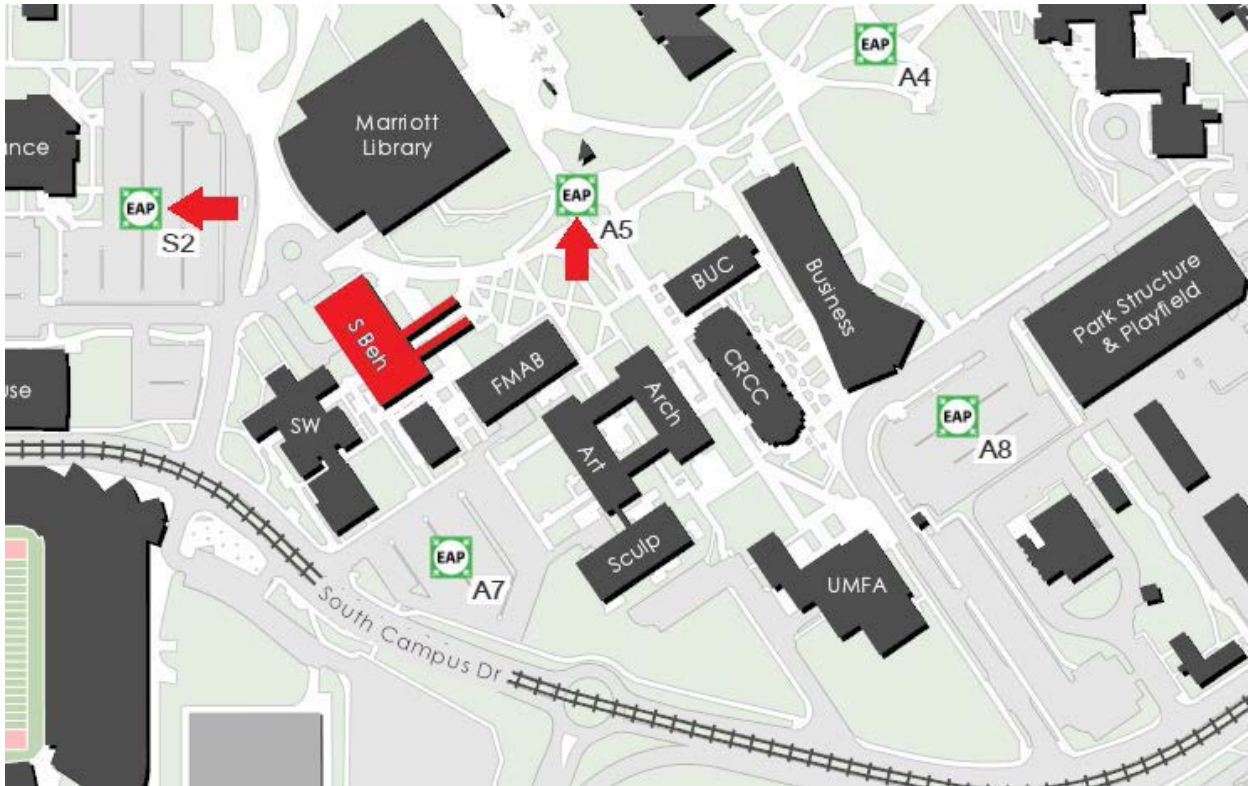
- The Razor's Edge, Summerset Maugham (existentialism)
- Fiver and the Psychology of Rabbits, Dr. Frank J. Page (a novel addressing meaning, morality, religion, and modernity) (available at Kings English, Sam Wellers Book Store, University of Utah Book Store, and on Amazon.com)

VIII. Suggested Videos (full length movies) (documentaries)

- Molokai, The Story of Father Damien, (Liberation theology, in practice with lepers)
- The Ten Commandments, Charlton Heston (conventional view of Old Testament)
- For The Bible Tells Me So. (Critical documentary on gay religious experience.)
- The Rapture, (fictional drama about evangelical beliefs regarding end times)
- Everyman for Himself, and God Against All, (socialization without God)
- When Nietzsche Wept, (Excellent drama/bio on Nietzsche & Freud) Armand Assante, Ben Cross)
- Religulous, Bill Maher (atheist criticism of religion)
- Elmer Gantry, Burt Lancaster (fundamentalist hegemony)
- The Black Robe, (religious / cultural imperialism)
- Gulliver's Travels, Jonathan Swift (early social criticism of religion and government)
- Galileo's Daughter, (Knowledge and conflict between religion and science)
- What the Blib Do I Know? (human nature, epistemology, spirituality)
- Jesus Camp, (documentary on aggressive evangelicals)
- 8: The Mormon Proposition. (Mormon politics)
- Mind Walk, (existential and religious views on modernity)
- The Razor's Edge, (classic on existentialism) Bill Murray
- The Mission, (religion and colonial exploitation), Robert De Niro
- Jonestown, The Life and Death of the Peoples Temple, (Doc. mass suicide)
- The Mormons PBS
- God in America. PBS
- Friendly Persuasion, Gary Cooper (Classic on Colonial American, Puritans, a study in syncretism)
- The Crucible, Arthur Miller (Salem Witch Trials)
- September Dawn, John Voight (Mountain Meadow Massacre)
- Inherit the Wind, George C. Scott, (Scopes Trial)
- Resurrection, Ellen Burstein (Gift of Healing, Faith in modern world)
- A Serious Man. Cohen Brothers (anomie and religious culture)

- Lust for Life, Kirk Douglas (Biography of Vincent Van Gogh)
- Sons of Perdition, (ex-Mormon Polygamists)
- The Examined Life. (Morality, Existentialism, Modernity)
- Martin Luther (Stacy Keach) bio-drama
- The Scarlet Letter. Colonial Puritan America
- The Magdalene Sisters (Movie based on documentary about cruel catholic work houses run by Nuns. in Ireland)
- Missionaries of Hate, (Documentary on Evangelical persecution of Gays in Uganda)
- Peaceful Warrior. (drama, fiction, Buddhism applied in modern America)
- Rabbit Proof Fence. (Religion and modernity)
- Breaking the Wave (religion, guilt, crisis of modernity)
- Fill the Void. (love and marriage in a conservative Jewish community)
- Mandela: The Long Walk to Freedom, (Bio on Nelson Mandela)
- King: From Montgomery to Memphis
- Pink Smoke Over the Vatican. (Religion and Sexism)
- Burying the Past: Legacy of the Mountain Meadow Massacre.
- A History of God. Karen Armstrong (History Channel)
- Constantine's Sword (Religious Prejudice)
- Malcom X
- Fiddler on the Roof. (Jewish life)
- With One Voice (modern spirituality vs organized religion)
- Five Broken Cameras (Israeli / Palestinian conflict)
- The Gate Keepers (Israeli / Palestinian conflict)
- American Jesus (variations on Christianity in modern America)
- The Light in the Jungle, (docudrama and biography on Albert Schweitzer, and the hospital he built in Africa, circa 1915)
- The Longest Hatred (Anti-Semitism)
- End of Times, Left Behind (History channel)
- The World In Our Eyes (Native American Religion)
- Richard Dawkins: An Atheists call to Arms.
- Prayer In America
- Eastern Religions (survey)
- History of God, Karen Armstrong
- Inside the Great Silence (life in a monastery)
- Voodoo Rituals (documentary)
- The Four Horsemen: Hitchens, Dawkins, Dennett, Harris, (atheist dialogue)
- Sex in a Cold Climate: (Documentary on Cruel Catholic Work Houses run by Nuns in Ireland)

- Prophet's Prey (Warren Jeff's polygamy)
- He Called Me Malala (Woman shot because she championed women's education in Pakistan)



CSBS EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

- **BUILDING EVACUATION**
- EAP (Emergency Assembly Point) – When you receive a notification to evacuate the building either by campus text alert system or by building fire alarm, please follow your instructor in an orderly fashion to the EAP marked on the map below. Once everyone is at the EAP, you will receive further instructions from Emergency Management personnel. You can also look up the EAP for any building you may be in on campus at <http://emergencymanagement.utah.edu/eap>.
- **CAMPUS RESOURCES**
- **U Heads Up App:** There's an app for that. Download the app on your smartphone at alert.utah.edu/headsup to access the following resources:

- **Emergency Response Guide:** Provides instructions on how to handle any type of emergency, such as earthquake, utility failure, fire, active shooter, etc. Flip charts with this information are also available around campus.
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- **See Something, Say Something:** Report unsafe or hazardous conditions on campus. If you see a life threatening or emergency situation, please call 911!
- **Safety Escorts:** For students who are on campus at night or past business hours and would like an escort to your car, please call 801-585-2677. You can call 24/7 and a security officer will be sent to walk with you or give you a ride to your desired on-campus location.
- ***As the only institution in the state classified in the highest research category (R1), at the University of Utah you will have access to state-of-the-art research facilities and be able to be part of the knowledge creation process. You will have the opportunity to do research of your own with faculty who are leading experts in their field, engaging in [programs](#) that match your research interests. Further, you will interact with and often take classes with graduate students that provide an advanced understanding of the knowledge in your field.***