

Jewish-Christian Relations

REL 347-001 | Spring 2021 | 3 Credit Hours

Seminar

Dr. Steve Jacobs

Contact Information

UA Campus Directory:

- Dr. Steve Jacobs (<https://www.ua.edu/directory/?i=sjacobs#listing>)

Prerequisites

UA Course Catalog Prerequisites:

No prereqs found

One course in either Religious Studies or Judaic Studies or permission of the instructor.

Course Description

Course Description and Credit Hours

Critical examination of the 2,000-year-old relationship focusing on areas of commonality and difference. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Historical study of the various points of contact and divergence between Judaism and Christianity, focusing on such topics as antisemitism, the Holocaust, the founding of the state of Israel, and diversity among Christian denominations.

Required Texts

Required Texts from UA Supply Store:

- Gaston, K. Healan / Imagining Judeo-Christian America : Religion, Secularism, and the Redefinition o (Required)
- Joshi, Khyati Y. / White Christian Privilege : The Illusion of Religious Equality in America*978014 (Required)

Course Objectives

To examine in a critical and objective scholarly manner points of tension and commonality between Judaism and Christianity.

Student Learning Outcomes

- 1. Students will be able to summarize the eight points covered in class through written and oral presentations as well as class discussions and additional readings.
- 2. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.
- 3. Students will be able to contribute to class discussion of issues of Jewish-Christian relations by submission of two well-crafted Response Papers.
- 4. Students will further contribute to class discussion on issues of Jewish-Christian relations and related issues and concerns through class discussions, lecture presentations, additional readings as well as essay-type questions contained in the Final Exam.
- 5. Students will further contribute to class discussions on issues of Jewish-Christian relations through independent research papers or creative projects of their own choosing and oral presentations of their work.
- 6. Students have the option of submitting any written assignment including the Research Paper in draft form for the instructor's input prior to the assigned due date.

Other Course Materials

Any additional course materials will be provided by the instructor on the Blackboard Course Home Page.

Outline of Topics

1. Hebrew Bible versus Old Testament
2. Jewish Messiah versus Christian Jesus
3. Land of Israel versus Holy Land
4. Holocaust/Shoah versus Jewish & Christian theology
5. Jewish Movements versus Christian denominations
6. Rabbinic Judaism versus Early Christianity
7. Middle East Conflict/State of Israel versus Apocalyptic thought
8. Jewish Outreach versus Christian evangelization

Exams and Assignments

2 Response Papers (3-5 pages each) to Heland and Joshi.

Research Paper (7-10 pages) Or Creative Project

Final Exam

Grading Policy

20% = Response Paper to Heland

20% = Response Paper or Joshi

30% = Research Paper or Creative Project

30% = Final Exam

Policy on Missed Exams and Coursework

All make-up work will be worked out on an individual basis in consultation with the instructor.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required unless otherwise noted in the Calendar of Meetings.

Notification of Changes

The instructor will make every effort to follow the guidelines of this syllabus as listed; however, the instructor reserves the right to amend this document as the need arises. In such instances, the instructor will notify students in class and/or via email and will endeavor to provide reasonable time for students to adjust to any changes.

Statement on Academic Misconduct

Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the official Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://catalog.ua.edu/undergraduate/about/academic-regulations/student-expectations/academic-misconduct-policy/>) provided in the Online Catalog.

Statement On Disability Accommodations

Contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) (<https://catalog.ua.edu/undergraduate/about/support-programs/disability-services/>) as detailed in the Online Catalog.

Severe Weather Protocol

Please see the latest Severe Weather Guidelines (<https://ready.ua.edu/severe-weather-guidelines/>) in the Online Catalog.

Pregnant Student Accommodations

Title IX protects against discrimination related to pregnancy or parental status. If you are pregnant and will need accommodations for this class, please review the University's FAQs on the UAct website (<https://www.ua.edu/campuslife/uact/information/pregnancy>).

Religious Observances

Under the Guidelines for Religious Holiday Observances, students should notify the instructor in writing or via email during the first two weeks of the semester of their intention to be absent from class for religious observance. The instructor will work to provide reasonable opportunity to complete academic responsibilities as long as that does not interfere with the academic integrity of the course. See full guidelines at Religious Holiday Observances Guidelines (<https://provost.ua.edu/oa-guidelines-for-religious-holidays-observance>).

UAct Statement

The University of Alabama is committed to an ethical, inclusive community defined by respect and civility. The UAct website (www.ua.edu/uact (<https://www.ua.edu/uact>)) provides extensive information on how to report or obtain assistance with a variety of issues, including issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence or other Title IX violations, illegal discrimination, harassment, hate or bias incidents, child abuse or neglect, hazing, threat assessment, retaliation, and ethical violations or fraud.

Statement on COVID-19

All University faculty, staff, and students are expected to maintain a commitment to the health and safety of our campus community. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, specific health and safety standards are in place to minimize exposure and community spread on campus. In the interest of your health and safety and that of all UA students, faculty and staff, the University reserves the right to change the mode of instruction or schedule of instruction at any time, based upon prevailing public health and other guidance. While the method of delivery may change, educational instruction and opportunities will continue. As such, the University will not provide a refund of tuition, in whole or in-part, based on any such changes. Detailed information on changes in format or schedule can be found at studentaccounts.ua.edu (<https://studentaccounts.ua.edu>) and financialaid.ua.edu (<https://financialaid.ua.edu>).

All students must be familiar with and abide by the requirements outlined in the UA Return Plan | UA System Comprehensive Health and Safety Plan. Students must (1) wear a mask or face covering at all times while participating in face-to-face class; (2) adhere to social distancing standards; and (3) comply with all other health and safety restrictions. If a student refuses to comply with the requirements, the student will be asked to leave the class and reported for a conduct violation. Unless a student has an exemption from the requirement to wear a face covering, (more information can be found at ods.ua.edu/covid-19-disability/ (<http://ods.ua.edu/covid-19-disability/>)), the student will be reported to Student Life for further disciplinary action. More information on these requirements and UA Healthcheck system and screening can be found at healthinfo.ua.edu/returnplan (<https://healthinfo.ua.edu/returnplan>). You are expected to visit the site and comply with all noted requirements related to in-person class attendance.

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