

## **Philosophy of Religion**

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### **About this course**

This seminar covers major sources in the modern Continental philosophical conversation on the philosophy of religion focusing on the writings of Kant, Schleiermacher, Hegel, and Kierkegaard. Assigned readings will be introduced by [graduate student presentations](#) at the beginning of the Tuesday sessions. Additional readings will be presented on by [undergraduate participants](#) at the beginning of the discussions on Thursdays. Each student will give at least one presentation during this semester. Sign-up sheets for these class presentations will be circulated at the first meetings.

### **Grading**

Students will be graded on attendance and participation (20%), and on their presentations (30%). Graduate students will write a term paper, following the attached guideline (50%). Undergraduate students will submit a midterm and a final exam. Both exams will be in a take-home format (25% each).

### **Course texts**

Immanuel Kant, Religion within the Limits of Mere Reason  
Daniel Friedrich Schleiermacher, On Religion, Speeches to the Educated among its Despisers  
G. W. F. Hegel, Lectures on the Philosophy of Religion  
Søren Kierkegaard, Fear and Trembling

### **Academic Code of Conduct**

Undergraduate students, please see <http://www.bu.edu/cas/academics/programs/conductcode.html>.  
Graduate students, please see the Graduate School's Academic Discipline Procedures at <http://www.bu.edu/grs/academics/resources/adp.html>.

### **Course schedule**

#### **Week I**

Tuesday, January 16  
Introduction to the course  
Thursday, January 18  
Kant: What does it mean to orient oneself in thinking?

#### **Week II**

Tuesday, January 23  
Kant, Religion within the boundaries of mere reason: Prefaces and Part I  
Thursday, January 25

Kant, Religion, Part I (discussion)

Last Day to ADD Classes: Monday, January 29, 2007

### **Week III**

Tuesday, January 30

Kant, Religion, Part II

Thursday, January 1

Kant, Religion, Part II (discussion)

### **Week IV**

Tuesday, February 6

Kant, Religion, Part III

Thursday, February 8

Kant, Religion, Part III (discussion)

### **Week V**

Tuesday, February 13

Kant, Religion, Part IV

Thursday, February 15

Kant, Religion, Part IV (discussion)

Last Day to DROP Classes (without a 'W' grade): Friday, February 16, 2007

Also: Last Day to Change from Credit to Audit Status

### **Week VI: Midterm (take-home; due Tuesday, Febr. 27)**

Substitute Monday Schedule of Classes Tuesday, February 20, 2007

Thursday, February 22, no class: Prof. Zank in Phoenix

### **Week VII**

Tuesday, February 27

Schleiermacher, On Religion. Speeches to Its Cultured Despisers: Editor's introduction and First Speech.

Thursday, March 1

Schleiermacher, On Religion, First Speech (discussion)

### **Week VIII**

Tuesday, March 6

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Second Speech

Thursday, March 8

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Second Speech (discussion)

Last Day to DROP Classes (with a 'W' grade): Friday, March 9, 2007

Spring Recess: Saturday, March 10, thru Sunday, March 18, 2007

### **Week IX**

Tuesday, March 20

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Third Speech

Thursday, March 22

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Third Speech (discussion)

## **Week X**

Tuesday, March 27

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Fourth Speech

Thursday, March 29

Schleiermacher, On Religion, Fourth Speech (discussion)

## **Week XI**

Tuesday, April 3 (Passover)

Hegel, Lectures on the Philosophy of Religion: Editor's introduction

Thursday, April 5

Hegel, Lectures: Hegel's introduction

## **Week XII**

Tuesday, April 10

Hegel, Lectures, Part I: The Concept of Religion

Thursday, April 12

Hegel, Lectures, Part I: The Concept of Religion (discussion)

## **Week XIII**

Tuesday, April 17

Hegel, Lectures, Part II: Determinate Religion

Thursday, April 19

Hegel, Lectures, Part II: Determinate Religion (discussion)

## **Week XIV**

Tuesday, April 24

Hegel, Lectures, Part III: The Consummate Religion

Thursday, April 26

Hegel, Lectures, Part III: The Consummate Religion (discussion)

## **Week XV**

Tuesday, May 1

Kierkegaard, Fear and Trembling

Thursday, May 3

Kierkegaard, Fear and Trembling (discussion)