RELIGIOUS STUDIES 171 Ivan Strenski
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RELIGION, ECONOMY AND VALUES

Defoe, Robinson Crusoe,
Dickens, Christmas Carol,
Lem, Solaris
Mauss, An Essay on the Gift,
Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
Course Reader is required and available at College Bookstore. All readings are from Course Reader unless otherwise noted.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. Informed class participation and informal presentations to the class. Bring books and reader to class. (=20%)
2. Essay Assignments: 5 short essays on assigned topics (2pp max, each) (=40%)
3. Final Project: Final Examinition (= 40%)

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS
PART I: Economic Ideology Shapes "Our" Society

"Economics Has No Time for Heretics"
Lekachman, "Greed Produces Little Public Good"

4 Ap: Before Capitalism: A World We Have Lost--and Good Riddance?
Laslett,"English Society and the Coming of Industry"

Dickens, The Christmas Carol
Szczrudzje, "The Social Utility of the Homeless"

Burstein, "Big Business vs the Entrepeneur"
Krugman, "Tough Reality of Capitalism"

16 Ap: Spirits at War with Each Other: Capitalism and Traditionalism
Oscar Lewis, "Manuel"
Salgado, "To the Moon for Menudo!"
Kramer, "Russia Lacks an Ethic for Capitalism"
Goldberg, "Farmers Saying Nyet! to Russia Land Reform"
Goldberg, "State Farm Reform Plan Fails to Take Root,"
PART I: The "Weber Thesis": Calvin for Us; Buddha, Confucius for Them
Jayasena, "Some Thoughts on Buddhism and Development".15,20

Defoe, Robinson Crusoe :beginning to "I Sow My Grain" (104), then read"I Find the Print of a Man's Naked Foot" (p 152) to "I Call Him Friday" (p 210) all references to Signet edition

30 Ap: Special session -- to be announced

2 May: Capitalism's Religious Crises
Weber, Protestant Ethic..., pp. 175-83;
Kristol, "Spiritual Roots of Capitalism..." and "Disaffection with Capitalism,"
Burstein, "Big Business...."
Novak, "Boredom, Virtue and Democratic Capitalism,"

7 May: Capitalism Is in the Blood: Social Darwinism
Spencer, Herbert, "Social Statics and Social Dynamics,"
Ardrey, Robert, "Cain's Children".

9 May: How the Market Got Its Freedom: Myth and Reality
Karl Polanyi, The Great Transformation, Chs 4-5 (R)
Walter Uhler, "The Market God"
N. Podhoretz, "Grand Expectations for Laws...."
Samuelson, "Reagan's Legacy Needs No Slogan"
Kramer, "The Market God in Russia"
Weber, "Market Days in Rural England...."

14 May: Religion, People and The Earth: The Market as Fallen Idol
Karl Polanyi, The Great Transformation, Ch 6 (R)
John Paul II, "Excerpts from the Pope's Encyclical"
Bright, "Home as Sex Symbol"
Jones, "Patenting of 'Invented' Animals OKd".
Brownstein, "Clinton Revives Debate over Industrial Policy"
"Banking on the Poor"
The Hubbell Trading Post

16 May: Polanyi Today: Different Cultures, Different Capitalisms
Charles Wallace, "Islamic Banks"
from "The Straight Dope", "YKK zippers"
Schrage, "Why US-Japan Clash of Cultures Is Healthy"
Watanabe, "We Should Listen to Japanese--Trade Expert Says"
Schoenberger, "The Model Here Isn't America--Malaysia"
Johnson, "A Policy Of American Abnegation"

PART II: The "Gift" Shapes "Their" Society
21 May: Pure Gift, Free Gift
Lem. Solaris

23 May: Gifts R Not Us
Leo Tolstoi, "What Men Live By" (Reserve)
Lapham, "Potlatch--Indians' Gift to the Nuclear Age"
Goodman, "A Perfect Match Isn't Always Possible"

28 May: Gift: The "Primitive Economy"... of Love and Fear
Marcel Mauss, An Essay on the Gift, pp.1-45

30 May: Gift Makes Society
Claude Lévi-Strauss, "The Principle of Reciprocity"

4 Jun: Gift in Modern Society: Dependence or Community?
I: Dependence: Dubbing Then, Tipping Now?
Bloch, Feudal Society: Volume I, pp. 163-75, 219-38 (Resrv)
Roberts, "Why Do We Feel Guilty Tipping Less than 15%?"
Citron, "Waiting for Nodough"
Ms Manners, "The Manners of Tipping"

II: Community in the Midst of Anonymity: Blood
Rall, "Drawingboard" (Cartoon)
Pristin and Nelson, "AIDS Victim Faces Prosecution..."
Mickey Kaus, "Up from Altruism"

13 Jun: Finale

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"Economics Has No Time for Heretics" LA Times 7 Apr 1991
Lekachman, Robert, "Greed Produces Little Public Good" LA Times 11 Nov 1986
Szczrudzje, "The Social Utility of the Homeless"
Salgado, C. J. "To the Moon for Menudo!" LA Times 3 Jan 1991.
Goldberg, Carey, "Farmers Saying Nyet! to Russia Land Reform LA Times 7 Apr 1992
Burstein, Daniel, "Big Business vs the Entrepeneur" LA Times
Laslett, Peter "English Society and the Coming of Industry" The World We Have Lost (New York: Scribners, 1965), 1-21.
Kristol, Irving, "The Spiritual Roots of Capitalism and Social ism" and "The Disaffection from Capitalism"
Danziger, "At the Graduate School of Business" (Cartoon) Chris tian Science Monitor
"The Hubbell Trading Post" (National Park Service: US Dept of the Interior)
"Banking on the Poor" (FINCA: Foundation for International Community Assistance)
Rall, "Drawingboard" (Cartoon)
Ms Manners, "The Manners of Tipping" LA Times 7 June 1990.

Other syllabi of the Department of Religious Studies at UC Riverside are available at their [web page](http://www.wlu.ca/~wwwaar/syllabi/religion_economy_and_values-strenski.html)

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