• What is the TRC?

• What is the connection between religion and residential schools?

12. Course Review + EXAM!

“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.”

— Dr. Seuss
Today

• Course stuff
• TRC
• What have you learned?
• Course evaluations
• Thinking ahead at UTM
• Study abroad
• Exam!

RLG101H Help

• Saliha: Thursday 2-4pm (ER208)
• Exam Jam on Thursday
• Me: no more office hours
  ➡ email to make appointment

Assignment Deadlines

• Last Bb comment: April 10
• Field Research Analysis
  ➡ April 4: receive detailed feedback
  ➡ April 5-7: no late penalty
• Final date to submit: **April 23**
  ➡ Submit documentation with requests to remove or reduce late penalty
  ➡ After April 23 you MUST petition to have late term work accepted

Reference Letters

• You may need some!
• Any post-university program
  ➡ Law, teacher’s college, grad school, medicine, police, etc.
• Okay to ask your profs!
  ➡ BUT it’s important that they know you
I wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

TRC

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Focus on Residential Schools
- June 2008 to December 2015
- Interviewed ca. 6,000 school survivors
- Reviewed schools’ records
- Reviewed government documents
- Issued 94 calls to action

Residential Schools

- 1830s-1996
- Mandated by gov’t / run by churches
- ca. 150,000 children
- ca. 6,000 deaths (+ more unknown)
  - Disease (tuberculosis) + malnutrition
- Abuse: physical / psychological / sexual / spiritual

Residential Schools

- No Indigenous languages / traditions
- Untrained / lower paid (religious) teachers
- Education:
  - Academics (basic / substandard)
  - Christianity
  - “Job skills” / menial labour
“The North American Indian cannot be civilized or preserved in a state of civilization . . . except in connection with, if not by the influence of, not only religious instruction and sentiment but of religious feelings.”

Egerton Ryerson, 1847
(Chief Superintendent of Education in Upper Canada)

“Our object is to continue until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic and there is no Indian question, and no Indian Department.”

Duncan Campbell Scott, 1920
(Deputy Superintendent of the Dept. of Indian Affairs)

Contemporary Indigenous Traditions

- Reclaim identity, rights, land, culture
- Return to pre-colonial traditions
  - Mix old with new (e.g., full moko on women)
  - Some traditions lost, need to re-create
- Indigenized forms of colonial religions

Tobacco

- Should have no additives
- Used in loose, dry form
- Sometimes placed in pouch (tobacco tie)
- Offering to elders, spirits
- Used for healing, purifying, giving thanks, reflecting, and seeking strength or guidance
Sand Painting (Navajo)

Mabel McKay (Pomo)

"A masterpiece. A work of visual beauty."

"An extraordinary excursion into an unknown world."

NATIVE AND CHRISTIAN
INDIGENOUS VOICES ON RELIGIOUS IDENTITY IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

ATANARJUAT
THE FAST RUNNER

A FILM. A PEOPLE. A LEGEND

A FILM BY ZACHARIAS RUNKU
What have you learned in this course?

Bloom’s Taxonomy

- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Application
- Analysis
- Synthesis
- Evaluation

RLG101H

- STUDY of religion
  - Theories, concepts, methods (=tools of analysis)
  - Definitions / meanings (e.g., “belief”)
  - Focus on people, not god(s)
  - Study of religion is study of what people do
  - Avoid assumptions! (Prevent you from seeing what’s really there)
Last Song!

- “Free Your Mind” by En Vogue (1992)

“Free Your Mind”

I wear tight clothing and high heel shoes
It doesn’t mean that I’m a prostitute

I like rap music wear hip hop clothes
That doesn’t mean that I’m sellin’ dope

Why oh why must it be this way
Before you can read me
You gotta learn how to see me

Free your mind and the rest will follow
Be colour blind, don’t be so shallow

RLG101H

- Writing skills
  - Paragraph construction
  - Citations and bibliography
  - Expressing your ideas clearly
  - Using theory to interpret data
  - Using objective evidence (not subjective experience) to support arguments
  - Following instructions

RLG101H

- Film Analysis + Field Research Analysis
  - Learn by doing
  - Original research
  - Critical analysis
  - Difficulty
• Film analysis:
  ➡ Theories: belief, text, ritual
  ➡ Use “religious” theories to examine “non-religious” data

• Field research analysis:
  ➡ Theories: culture, power, gender
  ➡ Use “non-religious” theories to examine “religious” data
  ➡ Experience!

1. Definition / study of religion
2. Culture
3. Power
4. Gender
5. Belief
6. Ritual
7. Text
8. Contemporary religion

Oprah Winfrey at the 2018 Golden Globes
Oprah Winfrey at the 2018 Golden Globes

- D: “Religion” (meaning, etc.) vs “religions” (traditions)
- C: Sub-cultures + resistance, religion = society
- P: Ideology, hegemony, counter-hegemony
- G: Ideology, “the symbolic”
- B: Cognitive/affective, habitus
- R: Power relations, community, neurosis
- T: Foucault, Leslie, Derrida
- CR: Religion and politics; religion and (popular) culture; influence of (African-American) Christianity

Course Evaluations

- Your feedback matters!
- Used to improve teaching
- ALSO affects instructors’ employment
- Important: COMMENTS!
- Write your TA’s name

TA Awards

- UofT-wide award
  ➞ Deadline: end of February
- UTM-only award
  ➞ Deadline: end of May
Complete your course evaluations...

Check your e-mail for a link to your evaluations, or log-in to www.portal.utoronto.ca and click the Course Evals tab!

University Education

- Many challenges!
  - Exciting?
  - Scary?
  - Challenging?
  - Find your path / voice
  - Activities, friends, family, solitude, etc.
  - Learning vs grades (why are you here??)

Other Historical Studies Courses?

- Classical Civilizations
- Diaspora and Transnational Studies
- History
- Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- South Asian Civilizations
- Women and Gender Studies

Other RLG Courses?

- RLG201 Intro to Religion in the Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts
- RLG202 Intro to Judaism
- RLG203 Intro to Christianity
- RLG204 Intro to Islam
- RLG205 Intro to South Asian Religions
Other RLG Courses?

- RLG206 Intro to Buddhism
- RLG207 Intro to Sikhism
- RLG208 Intro to Zoroastrianism
- RLG209 Intro to Indigenous Traditions
- RLG 211 Introduction to Religion, Media, and Popular Culture
- RLG312 How to Study Religion

My Courses

- RLG101 Intro to the Study of Religion
- RLG316 Religion and Violence
- RLG332 Reel Religion
- RLG333 Biblical Themes in Modern Lit
- RLG401 Religion and the Arts

My Courses

- RLG290 Religion in Hong Kong (Summer Abroad)
- RLG312 How to Study Religion
- RLG415 Topics: Religion and Death in HK
- Also: please visit or email me any time!

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS YOUR CLASSROOM?
Ecuador

Hong Kong

Guatemala

Centre for International Experience

University of Toronto

Summer abroad

IEC
UofT MISSISSAUGA
• Complete full-year UofT courses in 3-6 weeks
• Info sessions (at STG): January
• Funding available!
• Applications available mid-December
  ➞ Deadline: **February 1**
• [www.summerabroad.utoronto.ca](http://www.summerabroad.utoronto.ca)

**More Information**

• **UTM International Education Centre**
  Davis Building 2071
  905-569-4716
  international.utm@utoronto.ca
  [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/international/](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/international/)

• **Me!**
  Dept of Historical Studies
  ken.derry@utoronto.ca
Final Exam!

Thursday, April 5th, 2018
RLG101H5
12-1:30, DV2074

Exam Prep + Therapy Dogs + Blender Bike
Healthy Snacks + Study Space + Mindful Meditation + Jumbo Jenga and more!

www.fb.com/utmExamJam
www.utm.utoronto.ca/exam-jam

Instructor-led course review sessions are offered alongside activities that promote healthier study habits and stress management. UTM Exam Jam continues to grow each year, making it one of the largest annual events at UTM. Year after year, students describe Exam Jam as a “much needed and much appreciated event.”
Final Exam

- UTM Academic Calendar
  - Petitions, appeals, deferrals
  - Term work extension past exam period
  - Deferred exams: w/i 72 hours of exam
  - [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions)

Final Exam

- UTM Academic Calendar
  - Exam conflicts (same time +/- or 3 in a row)
  - May arrive up to 30 minutes late (if more than 30 minutes late, go to Registrar’s office)
  - **No phones, iPods, etc.**
  - Water is allowed (no other food or drink)
Final Exam

- **Past exams:** [http://library.utm.utoronto.ca](http://library.utm.utoronto.ca)
  - Only look at ones with my name
  - Note that I often change the course material
- RG Academic Skills Centre:
  - Drop in for help
  - Exam Jam session on studying and exam strategies: 12-1:30pm (IB370)

Final Exam

- Monday, April 23, 1-4pm
  - IB110 (A-L) and IB120 (M-Z)
  - Check schedule! (Do not trust me!)
- **Read instructions!!!**
- Read all questions
- Calculate approx. time per section
  - This exam has three parts each worth the same amount (= 1 hour / section)
- Spelling, grammar, etc. will not affect your grade . . .
  - As long as we understand what you are saying!
Final Exam

- “Crib Sheet”!
  - Must use template on RLG101H website
  - Limit: 100 words each side of the page
  - Full rules on RLG101H exam study guide

- IMPORTANT!!
  - Write your own sheet!

Final Exam

- Lectures
- Tutorials
- Lion King
- “Indigenous Traditions”
- Malory Nye, Religion: The Basics
- “Readings on Writing”

Final Exam

- Readings:
  - Focus on material from lectures + tutorials
  - Lecture slide questions
  - Tutorial homework
- Key ideas + examples
  - UNDERSTANDING
Malory Nye, *Religion: The Basics*

- Theories listed in theory documents provided for writing assignments
- Make sure you understand all of the summary points at the end of each chapter
- What is Nye’s perspective?

Which of the following statements would Nye agree with?

a. The academic study of religion can’t tell us the truth about god(s).

b. The academic study of religion can prove that religion is entirely made by humans.

c. There is no essence of “religion.”

d. A person’s intentions, not their actions, reveals their true religious beliefs.

e. Both a and c.

f. All of the above.

“Indigenous Traditions”

- (Re-)read all IT texts posted on the course site (under “Readings”)
- Familiarize yourself with ideas and examples
- I will NOT ask something like: “Which Indigenous community tells a story about a man finding a tunnel and meeting his dead kinsmen in the underworld?”

According to the course texts, which of the following statements about Indigenous religions are true?

a. Stories of the afterlife may tell us more about how we should live than about what happens when we die.

b. If a mask represents an animal, it almost always means that the community who uses the mask worships that animal.

c. Navajo sand paintings are traditionally used in rituals that preserve the paintings for many years.

d. Typically we are meant to imitate a trickster’s behaviour if that behaviour is driven primarily by self-interest.

e. In all African cultures, white symbolizes purity.

f. Both b and e.
Final Exam

- **Part 1** (20 Marks) - Multiple choice
  - Answer on Scantron
  - Possible to get 21/20 (#BonusQuestion!)
- **Part 2** (20 Marks) - Short answers
  - Answer in booklet
- **Part 3** (20 Marks) - Film analysis
  - Answer in booklet

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**Part 2**

- Short answers (20 marks)
- Answer five questions total (4 marks each)
- Five subsections with two questions each
  - 1A/1B  2A/2B  3A/3B  4A/4B  5A/5B
  - Answer ONE question from EACH subsection (e.g., 1B, 2B, 3A, 4A, 5B)

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**Part 2**

- How might the theory of affective and cognitive belief be used to find a message in *The Lion King*?
  - 1 mark: explain the theory (and name the theorist)
  - 1 mark: apply affective belief to TLK
  - 1 mark: apply cognitive belief to TLK
  - 1 mark: explain the message
Part 2

• What is ideology? Explain using examples from the Parkland high school students, the Star Trek religion from Futurama, and the song “Everything is Everything.”

• 1 mark: explain ideology
• 3 marks: 3 examples

Part 3

• Film analysis (20 marks)
• Four paragraphs (5 marks each)
  ➝ Pick four theories from list provided (on the exam study guide) or use any other theory from chapters 2-7 in Nye’s text
  ➝ Each theory must be from different chapter
  ➝ Use one theory for each paragraph

• Each paragraph:
  1. Explain theory
  2. Identify theorist
  3. Analyze video using theory
  4. Use analysis to show that video promotes a particular message
Part 3

- Suggested theories:
  1. Culture: power and culture (39-41)
  2. Power: religion, discourse, and power/knowledge (70-76)
  3. Gender: sex, gender, and sexuality (82-84)
  4. Belief: habitus (124-126)
  5. Ritual: rites of passage (Nye 144-8)
  6. Text: readers and reading (Nye 175-180)

Reductionist Theories

Gender as Construct
Thanks for a great term!

Good luck on all your exams!

Then have a wonderful summer!