

- What does the word “belief” mean?
- How might the theory of affective and cognitive belief be used to analyze *The Lion King*?

1

2. Belief

2

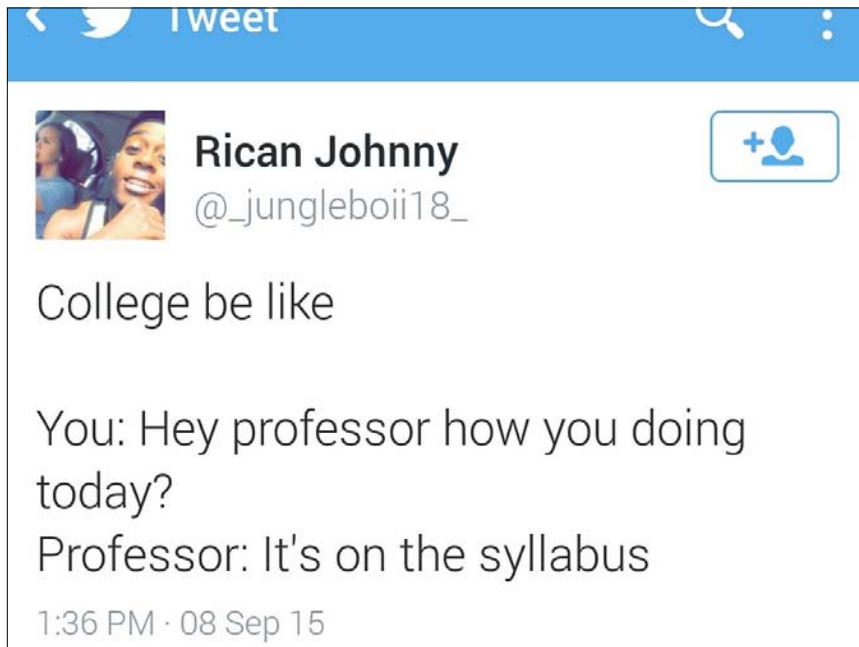
I believe in Jesus.

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Announcements

- Note-takers (see announcement on Sept. 11)
- New people?
 - ➔ Welcome!
 - ➔ Make friends, read announcements and syllabus, find out what you missed
- RLG101H: introduce you to study of religion
 - ➔ AND to university!
- Laptops

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Course Participation

Marked out of 30:

1. Online discussion comments (6 marks)
2. Tutorial attendance (11 marks)
3. Tutorial reading reflections (11 marks)
4. Tutorial homework (11 marks)
5. PELS workshops (10 marks)
6. Reflections on UTM events (5 marks)
7. Facilitated Study Groups (? marks)

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Tutorials

- Attendance
 - ➔ Must be present entire time
- Homework
 - ➔ Must submit in person at start of tutorial
- Reading reflections
 - ➔ Must write during tutorials from your memory of the readings for that week

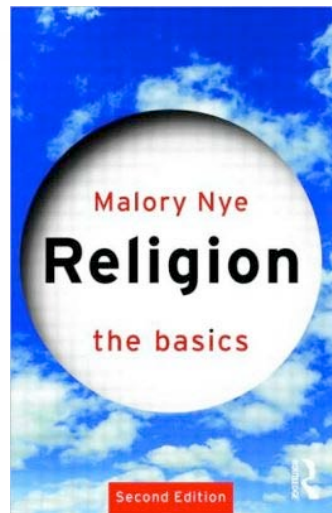
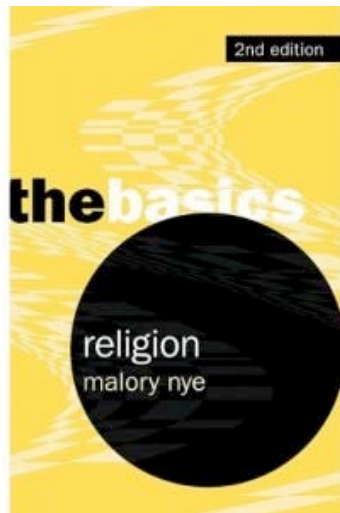
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Anonymous Feedback

- What should we be looking for when we read Nye's book?
- Liked the memes
- Nice note about lecture
- (Thanks!)



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Malory Nye



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Reading Nye

- What to “get” from Nye?
- Key ideas (big picture)
 - ➔ Summary points at end of each chapter
- Understand **some** theories
 - ➔ Be able to **apply** them to data
 - ➔ Importance of theorists’ **names**

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Reading Nye

- Read **before** tutorial and **after** lecture
 - ➔ Your understanding first, THEN ours
 - ➔ Will help you learn to read difficult material
- Lectures not identical to readings
 - ➔ Too much material in text to cover
 - ➔ Humanities: *conversations* with texts

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Last Week's Questions

- What might some “non-religious” events or products have in common with religion?
- What does the study of religion focus on? What does it NOT focus on?

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About the Course

- STUDY of religion
 - ➔ Theories, concepts, methods
 - ➔ Focus on **people**, not god(s)
 - ➔ Study of religion is study of what **people** do

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This Week's Questions

- What does the word “belief” mean?
- How might the theory of affective and cognitive belief be used to analyze *The Lion King*?

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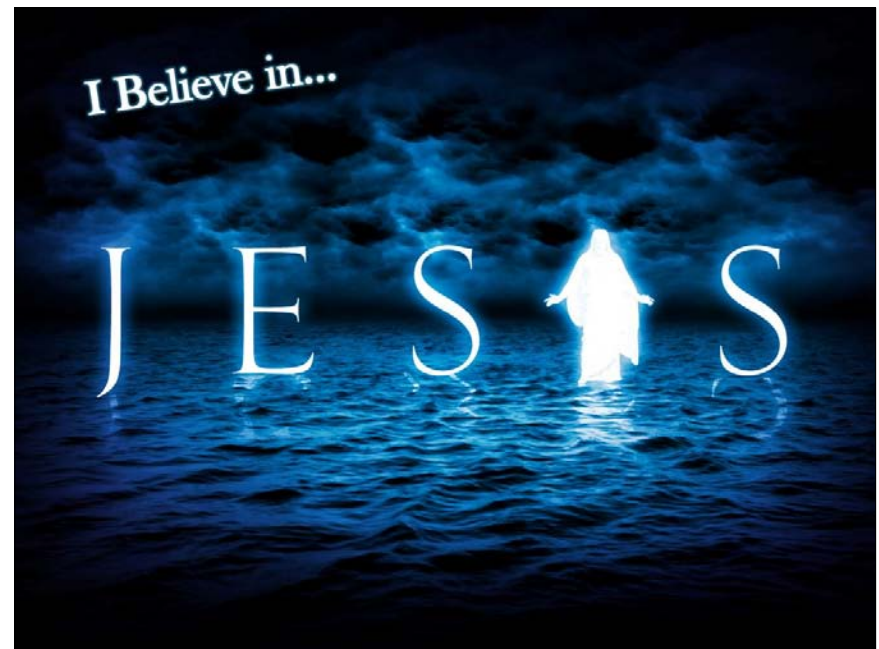
Today

1. Meaning of “belief”?
2. Belief and the federal election
3. Film Paragraph assignment
4. Theories of belief (+ *Lion King*!)
5. Next week:
 - ➔ Finish “Belief”
 - ➔ Writing / Analysis

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I. Meaning of “Belief”

I believe in Jesus.





“I believe you have my stapler.”



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**I believe you have
my stapler**



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“Belief”

- “I believe in Jesus.”
- “I believe you have my stapler.”
- “I believe in Big Foot.”
- “I believe in taking walks in the forest.”
- “I believe in justice.”
- “I believe in the literal meaning of the Bible.”

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“I am the gate for
the sheep.”

– Jesus (in John 10:7)

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Today’s Song

- “Don’t Stop Believin’” by Journey (1981)



“Don’t Stop Believin’”

Just a small town girl
Livin’ in a lonely world
She took the midnight train
Goin’ anywhere

Just a city boy
Born and raised in South Detroit
He took the midnight train
Goin’ anywhere

“Don’t Stop Believin’”

Strangers waiting
Up and down the boulevard
Their shadows searching
In the night

Don’t stop believin’
Hold on to that feeling
Streetlight people
Don’t stop believin’
Hold on

“Belief”

- “Belief” in English has different meanings
 - ➔ **Think** something is true / real
 - ➔ **Know** something is true / real
 - ➔ Regard something as **meaningful** or **important**
 - ➔ **Trust** in someone / yourself / god(s)
 - ➔ **Hope** for a good outcome

2. Belief + Election

Belief + Election?

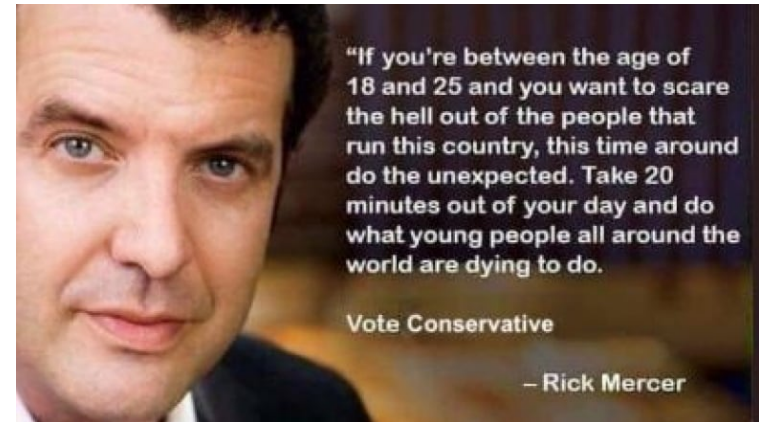
- What do you believe in? (What are your **values**?)
- Who do you believe? (Who do you **trust**?)
- Do you believe that your vote will matter? (Do you **trust** the system? Do you have **hope** that voting will help anything?)

Fake News

- Attempt to influence elections
- Should believe that a news item is true?
- Resources:
 - ➔ www.snopes.com
 - ➔ www.politifact.com
 - ➔ CBC chat bot
 - ➔ UTM Library 101: Fake News

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FB post: Conservative Party riding association
(Burnaby North-Seymour, BC)



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Mercer: BELIEF that it's important for
young people to vote!



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3. Film Paragraph

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Film Paragraph

- Paragraph due **September 27**
- Film lists on WordPress site (under Grading > Film Analysis)
- Each TA has different film list!
 - ➔ Must choose list from *your* TA
 - ➔ Choose a film and watch it this week
 - ➔ Some films: online / streaming

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Film Paragraph

- Theory:
 - ➔ An idea developed to understand data
 - ➔ Nye's text: facts + theories
 - ➔ Not all theories helpful for interpreting films
 - ➔ Film Paragraph instructions: you must choose **one** of the three theories listed there
 - ➔ Question: what **meaning** do you see in the film when you look at it using a theory?

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Film Paragraph

- Instructions on Quercus (Assignments)
- Write a paragraph analyzing a film from your TA's list using one theory of **belief**
 - ➔ Include citations and bibliography (using CMS author-date style)
 - ➔ Will post document on Quercus with **advice** and **example paragraphs**
 - ➔ Will post **grading rubric** on Quercus

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Film Paragraph

- Paragraph structure:
 1. Explain that you will use a **theory** to analyze part of a **film**
 2. Briefly **explain** the theory (cite Nye)
 3. Use the theory to **analyze** part of the film
 4. What **meaning** is revealed when you use the theory? (What do you see that you might not have seen before?)

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Tutorials

- Homework for next week:
 - ➔ Write a paragraph analyzing a film from your TA's list using one of the approved theories of belief (listed in instructions)
 - ➔ Follow structure on previous slide
 - ➔ Include citations and bibliography
 - ➔ (No grading rubric)
 - ➔ Bring **two copies**

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4. Theories of Belief

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Theories of Belief

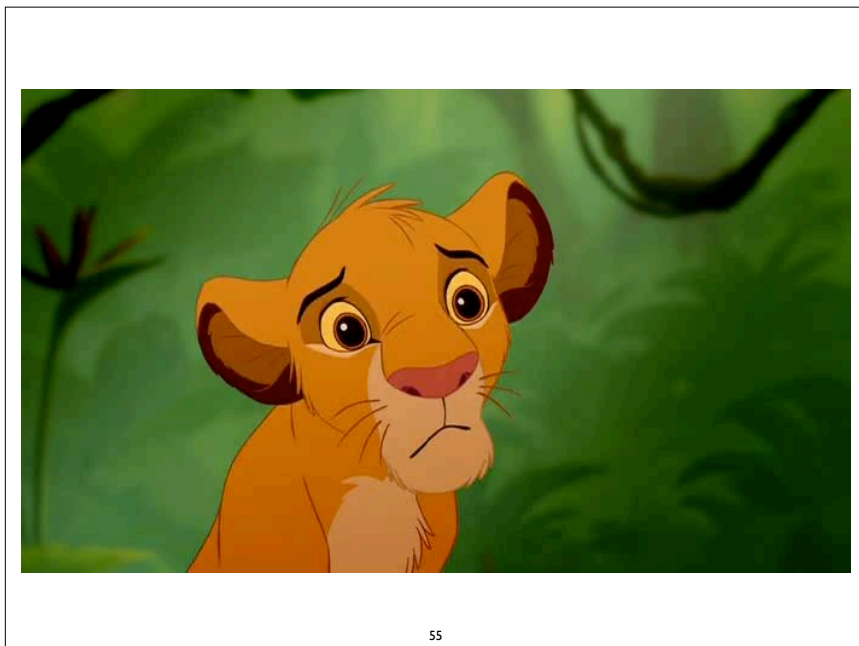
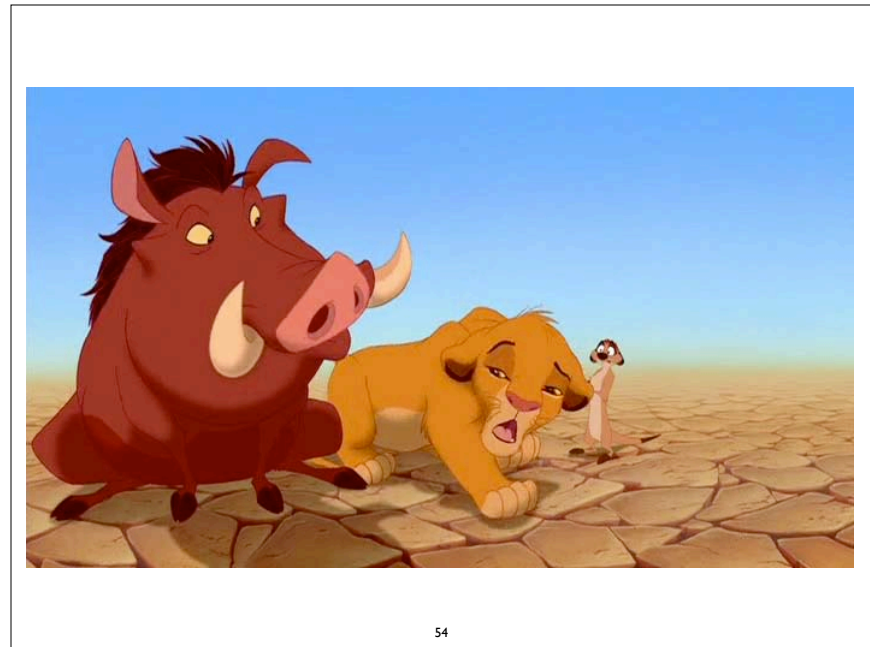
- Cognitive vs. affective beliefs (p. 117)
- Habitus (p. 125-6)
- Reductionist theories (p. 108-9)
- Non-reductionist theories (p. 111-5)
- Belief and common sense (p. 119-123)
- Cognitive approaches (p. 109-11)

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Theories of Belief

- Cognitive vs. affective beliefs (p. 117)
- Habitus (p. 125-6)
- Reductionist theories (p. 108-9)
- Non-reductionist theories (p. 111-5)
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Cognitive vs. Affective

- Richard Gombrich
- Cognitive belief: what we say/think we believe
 - ➔ Sam: "I believe it is important to vote."
- Affective belief: what our actions indicate that we believe
 - ➔ Sam votes.
 - ➔ Sam does not vote.

Cognitive vs. Affective

- Richard Gombrich
 - ➔ What is the **cognitive** belief of Timon and Pumbaa (and Simba)?
 - ➔ What is the **affective** belief of Timon and Pumbaa (and Simba)?

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“hakuna matata!”



no worries, no responsibilities

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“we’re with you to the end”

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“we’re with you to the end”

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Cognitive vs. Affective

- Analysis of *Lion King*:
 - ➔ Timon, Pumbaa, and Simba say that they believe in “Hakuna Matata” (cognitive)
 - ➔ Initially their actions also shows they believe in “Hakuna Matata” (affective)
 - ➔ However when loved ones are in trouble their actions show that they DO believe they have responsibilities (affective)

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Cognitive vs. Affective

- Possible meaning?
 - ➔ Having “no worries” can help us deal with bad experiences
 - ➔ However in some situations we have responsibilities that we really should care about

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Habitus

- Pierre Bourdieu and Catherine Bell
- Cultural context of people’s lives
 1. Impact of cultural context on our beliefs
 - ➔ Note: we still have individual choice (agency)

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Habitus

- Pierre Bourdieu and Catherine Bell
- Cultural context of people’s lives
 2. How specific beliefs are viewed/practiced can change depending on cultural context
 - ➔ E.g., belief in “sanctity of life” (Nye 125)

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Habitus

- Analysis of *Lion King*:
 - ➔ Impact of cultural context on Simba's beliefs?
 - ➔ Simba is exposed to two cultures that teach two different belief systems
 - ➔ Responsibility ("circle of life") vs no responsibility ("hakuna matata")
 - ➔ What might this mean?

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What purpose might belief in Santa serve?



Reductionist

- Religion is "really" about something else (of THIS world)
- "humans make up images of god for human purposes"
- Reductionist theories: objects of religious beliefs are constructed by people
 - ➔ "Reduce" god(s) to products of human beings

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