# Sociology of Religion

# SOCI 3700-900 & 950 (17774-5)

## Summer II 2020 / Online

## Dr. Karen Monique Gregg / TA Tanya Faglie

## IMPORTANT UNT DATES

Classes begin: 7/6

Last Day of Class: Friday 8/7

Census Date: 7/9

## IMPORTANT DATES IN THIS COURSE

* The discussion post introducing yourself is due before the end of Wk 1, 7/11at midnight (11:59 p.m.)
* Syllabus Quiz due by the end of Wk 1, 7/11 at midnight (11:59 p.m.)
* Research Article Overview (RAO) work:
  + Step 1: Finding 3 research articles due by: 7/11, 7/25 and 8/1 due before midnight on these Saturdays
  + Step 2: RAOs due: 7/18, 7/25, 8/1 due before midnight on these Saturdays
  + Step 3: RAO Summary/Critique Term Paper due Friday, 8/7 at midnight (11:59 p.m.)
* Test Dates:
  + Chs. 1-4 of Christiano, Swatos & Kivisto (CS&K) due Saturday, 7/18 at midnight (11:59 p.m.)
  + Chs. 5-7 of CS&K due Saturday, 7/25 at midnight (11:59 p.m.)
  + Chs. 8-11 of CS&K due Friday, 8/7 at midnight (11:59 p.m.)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Contact with Professor:** Post any questions you have in the Q&A discussion. Dr. Gregg will check the Q&A weekly. Dr. Gregg will also be monitoring your progress in the course and will correspond with you via grading comments.

**Office Hours:** This course is entirely online. Dr. Gregg will not hold office hours on campus. This does not mean Dr. Gregg is not available for help. If you need to discuss the course with her, please send her a message in the Inbox in Canvas to set up a SKYPE, ZOOM, or FACETIME appointment.

**Inbox Canvas:** If you need to speak to Dr. Gregg privately, the BEST way to do so is via theInbox inCanvas.Please allow 24-hours for a response.

**Unavailable:** Dr. Gregg does not respond to emails or messages in the evenings and on weekends. If you email her then, please expect a reply the next business day.

Dr. Gregg E-mail: [Karen.Gregg@UNT.edu](mailto:Karen.Gregg@UNT.edu)

If you email Dr. Gregg here, she will ask you to copy and paste your email in the Canvas learning management system.

**TA E-mail:** [Tanya.Faglie@unt.edu](mailto:Tanya.Faglie@unt.edu)

**TA Responsibilities:** Our TA grader will be responding to your introductions in the course and will be grading your work on the RAO assignments. Our TA has been the TA for this course before and she is very experienced at looking at RAO assignments. Pay attention to the grading comments she leaves for you. She will try to help you by explaining how you can do better the next time. Any questions related to the RAO assignments should be directed to Tanya Faglie directly using the Inbox in Canvas.

## UNT INFORMATION

The University of North Texas (UNT) is a major public research university deeply committed to advancing educational excellence and preparing students to become thoughtful, engaged citizens of the world.

### College of Liberal Arts and Sciences / Mission and Vision

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (formerly the College of Arts and Sciences) began in 1945 with a diverse set of 14 departments. Today, our family of 22 academic departments and programs remains eclectic. And so are the college's alumni, who number in the tens of thousands and live throughout the United States and in many countries around the world. Our alumni have distinguished themselves in areas ranging from scientific research to politics to business and finance.

**Mission:** Our mission is to kindle the thirst for truth, justice, and beauty; to foster cultural literacy and scientific investigation; and to cultivate thinking, speaking, and writing abilities characterized by clear expression and logically coherent, evidence-based arguments. We see these as the values, forms of knowledge, and skills most needed by citizens of a democracy and by productive members of the global workforce.

**Vision:** We seek a future in which the achievements of our faculty and students reach ever greater heights of excellence and public recognition; in which a spirit of inclusion and mutual respect is maintained and strengthened among faculty and students with differing viewpoints and from diverse backgrounds; and in which increasing interdisciplinary collaboration opens up new opportunities for intellectual, empirical, and creative discovery.

### Department of Sociology

We are a dynamic community of faculty, staff and students who share a commitment to developing sociological imaginations in ourselves and others. Our mission as a department is to provide undergraduate and graduate students with conceptual and methodological tools to productively analyze social patterns. High-level sociological training prepares our students for careers in education, marketing, social services, government, data science, health care and many other fields.

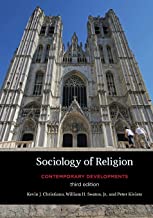
## CATALOG DESCRIPTION

SOCI 3700. Sociology of Religion. 3 hours. A review of the common sociological dimensions of all religions such as moral definitions, group membership and dynamics, prescribed ritual practices and definitions of the sacred. An examination of sociologists contributing to the field such as [Marx,] Durkheim, and Weber. Includes a sociological analysis of major world religions, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

* By the end of the course, students will be able to:
* Use the UNT Library System to find scholarly and peer-reviewed research articles pertaining to the sociology of religion.
* Read and summarize research articles finding the relevant details in each.
* Develop a broad overview of what sociologists of religion study and in order to cultivate a deeper understanding of how religion affects society at the micro-, meso-, and macro-levels.
* Make connections in writing between research articles and the text.

## REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

 ISBN: 978-1-4422-1692-1

*Sociology of Religion: Contemporary Developments,* 3rd Ed. (2015) Kevin J. Christiano, William H. Swatos, and Peter Kivisto.

It is important that you acquire this book ASAP! To be fair, everyone must have all of their course materials by week one, day one of the semester.

An electronic copy of this book has been put on hold for students through the UNT Library System. Students are permitted to check this book out for 24 hours at a time (only 3 students per day).

In this course, students are required to use the UNT Library System to find 3 research articles from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals pertaining to the Sociology of Religion. The 3 topics of these research articles are:

1. Topic of your choosing related to religion.
2. Race, ethnicity, and religion.
3. Gender, sexuality, and religion.

## UNT ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### UNT Code of Student Conduct

Click here to see the expectations regarding your conduct as a student of UNT. <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012>

### UNT Academic Integrity

Academic integrity emanates from a culture that embraces the core values of trust and honesty necessary for full learning to occur. As a student-centered public research university, the University of North Texas promotes the integrity of the learning process by establishing and enforcing academic standards. Academic dishonesty breaches the mutual trust necessary in an academic environment and undermines all scholarship. For more information, see: <https://vpaa.unt.edu/fs/resources/academic/integrity>

### UNT Participation/Attendance

The University of North Texas recognizes that student success is promoted by regular attendance and participation in class. It is the responsibility of the faculty member to notify students in writing of any special attendance requirements for the class. This policy applies to all modes of course delivery. For more information see: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>

### Prof Gregg’s Requirements

You are expected to log into the Canvas site often and to participate on a weekly basis in the course. You have work to complete every week in Canvas. If it appears that you are not participating in the course, I will use the Care Team reporting system to alert the university of your lack of participation. Someone will reach out to you.

### Office of Disability Access

UNT is committed to providing equal access to higher education for academically qualified students with disabilities. The Office of Disability Access assists students with disabilities in achieving their academic potential by coordinating a variety of services. The office acts as a liaison between the student, instructors, and other university resources and community agencies.

To be eligible for services, you must register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) and provide current documentation of the disability. ODA recommends that students contact the office at least eight weeks before enrolling at UNT to ensure sufficient time to plan for individualized academic modifications and services. While every effort is made to accommodate students with disabilities, it is the student’s responsibility to make needs known, provide proper documentation, and request services in a timely manner. See: <https://disability.unt.edu>

### Prof Gregg’s Requirements

If a student is eligible for accommodations based on a documented disability with ODA, he or she is required to notify Dr. Gregg in the form of a letter from the ODA within one week of the start date for the course. At that time, Dr. Gregg will meet (or trade emails) with the student to discuss reasonable accommodations for him or her to be successful in this course. Once the course has started, no new accommodations will be made (unless the documented disability is new or Dr. Gregg is contacted by ODA).

### UNT Writing Center

The Writing Center at the University of North Texas provides support for undergraduate and graduate writers across the disciplines. Their mission is to help students improve as writers at all levels, and they support a culture of teaching and learning at UNT through peer tutoring, interactive workshops, classroom support, and consultation with faculty and staff. For more information, see: <https://writingcenter.unt.edu/our-mission>

### UNT Title IX Information

The University of North Texas is committed to providing a safe environment for all community members. Dating violence, domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual coercion, sexual exploitation, sexual violence, and stalking are prohibited. Please see their page on reporting sexual violence for more information. UNT is here to help. Find more information about sexual violence, including campus and community resources at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/sexual-misconduct?utm_medium=deanofstudents&utm_source=web&utm_campaign=dsa-home-page>.

## PROFESSOR GREGG’S COURSE EXPECTATIONS

### What you can expect from your instructor:

1. Respect and active listening.
2. Consistent grading with return time within one-two weeks.
3. Willingness to teach, learn and answer questions.
4. To be prepared each week for our class.
5. To allow ample opportunity for you to do well in this course.
6. To be available by appointment for additional help.
7. To treat everyone equally and fairly.

### What I expect from you:

1. Patience with me as the instructor and with all others who participate in this class.
2. Active participation in our class in the Canvas environment as required by the syllabus.
3. To complete all assignments as they are scheduled in the syllabus.
4. Consistent participation on-line. If it appears you are not actively engaged in this course, Prof. Gregg will use the UNT Care Team reporting system to make recommendations.
5. To read the syllabus carefully each week and know what is supposed to happen. This is our contract. Prof. Gregg and the TA will do all that they can to abide by the syllabus, so they expect you to do the same.
6. To act with academic integrity during any tests and in all writing. Your work should be your own. Cheating will not be tolerated! See above for the UNT policy on academic dishonesty.
7. To read the grading comments that Prof. Gregg and the TA provide on all of your assignments. They will incorporate tips about how you can do better on the next assignment. If you need extra help with your writing, Dr. Gregg and the TA will suggest that you use the Writing Center on campus (Sage Hall).
8. To put assignments in the correct space in Canvas. If you put things in the wrong spot, you will receive a zero (0) and your work will not be graded.
9. To follow ALL directions in the syllabus. If you do not, you will automatically receive a zero (0) on the assignment submitted.
10. To buy and use the correct version of the book. Right now, that is the 3rd Edition of Christiano, Swatos, and Kivisto’s *Sociology of Religion: Contemporary Developments.[[1]](#footnote-1)* If you analyze something other than what everyone else is analyzing, you will receive a zero (0). This is especially important when completing any writing assignments. So, please buy and use the correct version of the book.

* IMPORTANT: If we happen to look up something you quote in the book and it is not on the page cited, you will automatically fail the assignment and receive a zero (0) with no chance to redo the assignment.

1. To be responsible for your work and prepare for and handle situations of computer and Internet difficulties. If your Internet is out, go somewhere where it is working so that you do not miss any of the assignments.
2. **You have 7 days each week to complete the work items for the week.** Do not wait until the last minute to begin your work. Dr. Gregg recommends completing your work by Wednesday or Thursday each week. That way, if you do have some technical difficulty, you’ll have 24-48 hours to correct it.
3. If you need additional help in this course, it is your responsibility to contact Dr. Gregg or the TA to make an appointment. Virtual meetings using ZOOM, SKYPE, OR FACETIME usually help students get on track.

## ASSIGNMENTS & TECHNICAL ISSUES

All assignments should be submitted by the indicated dates and times embedded in the syllabus. There will be no extensions, except in cases of documented emergencies.

* In the event of a legitimate emergency, students are to contact Dr. Gregg via the Inbox in Canvas to discuss your situation.
* Students should contact Dr. Gregg **PRIOR TO** missing the assignment.
* Each student is allowed **only one documented emergency** per semester.

Students are responsible for knowing the Canvas environment. This means that students are responsible for their own training in Canvas. Technical problems with Canvas software are to be directed to the **Help Desk**.

[UNT Help Desk](https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/) - 940-565-2324 / Sage Hall 330 / helpdesk@unt.edu  
Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - midnight  
Friday 8:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Sunday noon – midnight

Technical problems with computers or CanvasARE NOT satisfactory excuses for missing assignment deadlines. Dr. Gregg suggests that you DO NOT wait until the last minute to submit assignments. If you experience trouble with your computer or your home Internet access, you are expected to use the computer clusters on campus to complete your work on time.

At the end of the semester, Dr. Gregg will base your grade on the Grading Scale below.

## DR. GREGG’S GRADING SCALE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Percent Earned | Letter |
| 90-100% | A |
| 80-89% | B |
| 70-79% | C |
| 60-69% | D |
| lower than 60% | F |

## SUMMARY OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS, VALUES, AND GRADING

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of Assignments | Values |
| 1 Discussion:  Post an introduction in Week 1 of the course.\*  \*The TA will respond to your introduction welcoming you to the course. | Complete / Incomplete  Grade |
| 1 Quiz:  Quiz\* over the syllabus is due in Week 1 of the course. It is worth 50 points  \*Automatically scored. | 50 Pts / 2.5% |
| 3 Research Article overviews:  Step 1: Find an appropriate research article in the Sociology of Religion (3 assigned topics). Submit article for approval 3 X 50 Pts = 150 Pts  Step 2: Complete the Research Article Overview Template (RAO)\* describing all the relevant details of the research. Do this 3 X 200 = 600 Pts  \*The TA will grade Step 1 and Step 2 of your RAO assignments. It is best to wait for approval on Step 1 before proceeding to Step 2. | Step 1 150 Pts / 7.5%  Step 2 600 Pts / 30% |
| 3 Tests:\*  Test 1 – Chs. 1-4, Test 2 – Chs. 5-7, Test 3 – Chs. 8-10  Tests should be taken on the dates assigned in the Tentative Course Schedule. There are 3 Tests X 300 = 900 Pts.    \*Automatically scored. | 900 Pts / 45% |
| RAO Summary Critique/Report (Term Paper):  Step 3: This is a short paper (2-4 pages)\* summarizing and critiquing the 3 RAs obtained for the course. Students must follow the outline in the syllabus.  \*Dr. Gregg will grade your RAO Summary/Critique Paper | Step 3 300 Pts / 15% |
| TOTAL | 2000 Pts / 100% |

# Tentative Course Schedule

## Week 1 (7/5-7/11)

## Your goal is to complete all the work for this week before Saturday 7/11

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description of Work | More Details |
| To Do: | Introduce yourself in the Discussion for Introductions. Tell us:  1) Why you took this course.  2) What you hope to learn in this course.  3) Something fun you will do once the course is over.  Then, welcome at least one other person to the course. | Discussion in Canvas |
| To Do: | * Obtain materials for the course to set yourself up for success:  1. Syllabus; and 2. CS&K[[2]](#footnote-2) Text Book. 3. Watch Dr. Gregg’s YouTube video introducing you to the course.  * Read the Syllabus. Post any questions you may have in the Discussion for Q&A. | Syllabus – in Canvas  Text -- Book Store  Discussion in Canvas |
| Read | CS&K Chs. 1-3.  Take notes as you go. | Text |
| RAO 1, Step 1 | Find a research article for the RAO assignment. This one can be about **any topic in religion** that interests you personally.  Be sure to read pp. 29-30 “Producing the Sociology of Religion” in CS&K’s book.  Research articles must meet 3 criteria:   1. Your research article should only be from one of the scholarly journals listed on pp. 29-30 of CS&K. 2. Use only research articles dated 2010 or more current. 3. Use only research articles that collect and analyze data. (Do not use a theoretical piece, a speech, or a research note.) | Library Resources – Search the Databases for research in religion that interests you.  By Saturday, 7/11 before midnight (11:59 p.m.) upload the research article you find for approval from Dr. Gregg. After she approves and grades your choice of research to read, you may start working on the RAO assignment.  If what you have selected does not meet the criteria for this assignment, you will earn 0. |

## Week 2 (7/12–7/18)

## Your goal is to complete all the work for this week before Saturday 7/18

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description of Work | More Details |
| RAO 1, Step 2 | Using your research article complete the RAO Template and submit for a grade. | Template is at the end of the Syllabus and in Canvas.  Do this before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 7/18 |
| Read | CS&K Ch. 4.  Take notes as you go. | Text |
| TEST | Complete Test over Chs. 1-4 in CS&K  More details about what you can expect on the Tests may be found at the end of this syllabus and in Canvas. | Tests are found in Quizzes in Canvas.  This Test closes Saturday 7/18 at midnight (11:59 p.m.) |

## Week 3 (7/19-7/25)

## Your goal is to complete all the work for this week before Saturday 7/25

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description of Work | More Details |
| RAO 2, Step 1 | Find a research article for the RAO assignment. This one should be about **race, ethnicity, and religion**.  Be sure to read pp. 29-30 “Producing the Sociology of Religion” in CS&K’s book.  Research articles must meet 3 criteria:   1. Your research article should only be from one of the scholarly journals listed on pp. 29-30 of CS&K. 2. Use only research articles dated 2010 or more current. 3. Use only research articles that collect and analyze data. (Do not use a theoretical piece, a speech, or a research note.) | Library Resources – Search the Databases for research in religion that interests you.  By Saturday, 7/25 before midnight (11:59 p.m.) upload the research article you find for approval from Dr. Gregg.  If you turn in your RA early, Dr. Gregg will grade it and let you know if it is approved for the assignment.  If what you have selected does not meet the criteria for this assignment, you will earn 0. |
| RAO 2, Step 2 | Using your research article complete the RAO Template and submit for a grade. | Template is at the end of the Syllabus and in Canvas.  Do this before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 7/25 |
| Read | CS&K Ch. 5, 6 & 7.  Take notes as you go. | Text |
| TEST | Complete Test over Chs. 5-7 in CS&K  More details about what you can expect on the Tests may be found at the end of this syllabus and in Canvas. | Tests are found in Quizzes in Canvas.  This Test closes Saturday 7/25 at midnight (11:59 p.m.) |

## Week 4 (7/26-8/1)

## Your goal is to complete all the work for this week before Saturday 8/1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description of Work | More Details |
| Read | S&K Chs. 8-9.  Take notes as you go. | Text |
| RAO 3, Step 1 | Find a research article for the RAO assignment. This one should be about **gender, sexuality and religion**.  Be sure to read pp. 29-30 “Producing the Sociology of Religion” in CS&K’s book.  Research articles must meet 3 criteria:   1. Your research article should only be from one of the scholarly journals listed on pp. 29-30 of CS&K. 2. Use only research articles dated 2010 or more current. 3. Use only research articles that collect and analyze data. (Do not use a theoretical piece, a speech, or a research note.) | Library Resources – Search the Databases for research in religion that interests you.  By Saturday, 8/1 before midnight (11:59 p.m.) upload the research article you find for approval from Dr. Gregg. After she approves and grades your choice of research to read, you may start working on the RAO assignment.  If what you have selected does not meet the criteria for this assignment, you will earn 0. |
| RAO 3, Step 2 | Using your research article complete the RAO Template and submit for a grade. | Template is at the end of the Syllabus and in Canvas.  Do this before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 8/1 |
| SPOT | Please remember to complete the SPOT evaluation for the course. | Check your email. |

NOTE: This course ends on Friday 8/7. All of your work should be submitted before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Friday, 8/7

## Week 5 (8/2-8/7)

## Your goal is to complete all the work for this week before Friday 8/7

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description of Work | More Details |
| RAO 3 | Using your research articles to write an RAO Summary Critique paper discussing all of your research articles. This paper should be considered a written test. Follow all of the directions for what to write at the end of the syllabus and in Canvas. | Template is at the end of the Syllabus and in Canvas.  Do this before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Friday 8/7 |
| Read | CS&K Chs. 10-11.  Take notes as you go. | Text |
| TEST | Complete Test over Chs. 8-11 in CS&K  More details about what you can expect on the Tests may be found at the end of this syllabus and in Canvas. | Tests are found in Quizzes in Canvas.  This Test closes Friday 8/7 at midnight (11:59 p.m.) |
| SPOT | Please remember to complete the SPOT evaluation for the course. | Check your email. |

# MORE DETAILS ON COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

## TESTS (900 Points / 45% of Final Grade)

The book is divided into 3 parts. At the end of each part, students are asked to take an online test in Canvas. If you have kept up with the reading, taken good notes while you read, and followed the instructions in the syllabus and in Canvas, you should do very well on the Tests.

**Details**

* Each Test is worth 300 Points (15% of Final Grade)
* You will be presented with anywhere from 25-50 True/False or Multiple Choice Questions.
* Each student will be presented with a random set of questions drawn from a test bank that Dr. Gregg wrote. These questions have been vetted by students in other semesters for the use in this course.
* Students are allowed 60 minutes to complete the Test. After 60 minutes your Test will automatically submit in Canvas.
* You are only permitted one attempt on each Test.
* Tests are open book and students can use the notes they take as they read.
* Students should not work with others to complete the Tests.
* Tests are open from day one of the course. This means you can work ahead in this course.
* Because you are allowed 7 days to take the tests, and because students are allowed to work ahead in this course, there will be no make-up tests allowed in this course. If you miss a Test, the grade book will be populated with a zero.

## RESEARCH ARTICLE OVERVIEWS (RAO) (1050 Points / 52.5% of Final Grade)

There are three steps to the RAO assignment. The first two steps only apply to Part 1 and 2 of the course. In Part 3, you will complete all 3 steps.

## Summary of RAO Assignments and Values

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Part 1 | Part 2 | Part 3 |
| Find a research article about a  topic of your choosing. | Find a research article specifically related to race, ethnicity, and religion. | Find a research article specifically related to gender, sexuality, and religion. |
| 50 Pts to find the article, make into PDF, and upload to Canvas.  200 Pts to complete the RAO Template. | 50 Pts to find the article, make into PDF, and upload to Canvas.  200 Pts to complete the RAO Template. | 50 Pts to find the article, make into PDF, and upload to Canvas.  200 Pts to complete the RAO Template. |
| 250 Points  12.5% of Final Grade | 250 Points  12.5% of Final Grade | 250 Points  12.5% of Final Grade |
|  |  | Term Paper: RAO Summary/Critique  300 Pts (15% of Final Grade) |

**Step 1 of RAO Assignment**:

In each part of the course, using the UNT library system, students should find a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal article from one of the scholarly journals discussed in Ch. 2, pages 29-30 in the excerpt “Producing the Sociology of Religion” of CS&K’s book.[[3]](#footnote-3) If your article does not come from one of the journals in this excerpt, you will be awarded a zero (0) and you will forfeit your points for this assignment. Articles must be dated 2010 or more current. The articles you find and read should collect and analyze data. (Do not submit speeches, research notes, or theoretical articles.)

1. After finding a research article, save it as a .pdf file.
2. Upload the .pdf file to Canvas in the correct spot by the correct due date in the syllabus.
3. Do not proceed to Step 2 until your Step 1 has been graded.

## Grading Article Submission

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Points |
| Student does the following:   1. Finds research article from one of the scholarly journals on pp. 29-30 of CS&K’s text. 2. The article submitted is 2010 or more recent. 3. The research article collects data to analyze. 4. The research article is about the topic assigned | (0 or 50 Points)  If your article doesn’t meet all 4 criteria on the left, you will be awarded 0 points. |

**Step 2 of RAO Assignment**:

1. Read the research article you found.
2. Complete the Research Article Overview Template summarizing the article you found. (See more specific details below.)
3. Upload to Canvas in the correct spot by the correct due date in the syllabus.

***More Details for Completing RAO***

1. Copy and paste the RAO Template (in Canvas and on the last page of this syllabus) into a Word document (.pdf, .doc, or .docx ONLY).
   * Do not submit your RAO with Google Docs or Pages. Neither of these interfaces well with Canvas. If you do this, and we open your RAO to grade it and nothing is there, you will earn a zero (0).
   * If the formatting is all wonky, you could also earn a zero (0).
2. The title of your RAO should be Research Article Overview 1, 2, or 3 respectively.
3. Leave the headings (**the bolded and underlined typing**) in your document. Delete the instructions for what to type.
   * For example, your document should look like this:
     + **Title of Article:** “The Religious Awakening in China”
     + **Journal Name:** Review of Religious Research
     + And so on...
4. Using your best college writing fill in the relevant details of the research article you found. Answer all questions asked. Address all prompts in the directions. Single-space your writing.
5. Students will be graded for accuracy of what they describe from their article, as well as the quality and quantity of writing. If you quote something from your article in your writing, use quotation marks and cite the author and page number.[[4]](#footnote-4) Example: (Stark 210).
   * About quantity: Try to fill 2 pages, but do not go over 2 pages.

## Grading RAOs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Points |
| **Directions/Writing**:   * Title is correct – Research Article Overview 1, 2 or 3 * Leaves the bolded and underlined prompts * Deletes all instructions for what to write * Doesn’t go over 2 pages * Writes using their BEST COLLEGE WRITING (sentence structure, grammar, punctuation) * Doesn’t skip a section * Doesn’t steal language from the abstract | (50 Points) |
| **Describes research article fully in each part of RAO (doesn’t skip a section):**   * Study Rationale (5 points) * Study Design (5 points) * Describe Data Collected (10 points) * Literature Review (2 things learned & cites well) (10 points) * Main findings/results/conclusions (5 points) * Criticisms/Opinion (10 points) * Discussion Point (5 points) | (100 Points) |
| **Good connections to CS&K’s book**:   * Writes about what they are learning from CS&K * Quotes CS&K and cites like this: (CS&K 20) * Connections are clear and solid (make sense) | (50 Points) |
| **TOTAL** | **(200 Points)** |

**Step 3 of RAO Assignment:**

At the end of Part 3 of the course, you will write a Term Paper called the RAO Summary/Critique, which provides a summary or critique of what you learned from the RAO process. In writing this paper you will discuss all that you have learned from the three research articles you read. The goal will be to link what you’ve learned in the research articles to the CS&K text.

***Details for Completing RAO Summary/Critique Paper***

* Think of this short paper as a written test over your RAOs.
* Format using MLA formatting.
  + Use this link to see how to format: owl.purdue.edu
  + See example RAO Summary/Critique papers from past students in Canvas in Modules. This will be useful in two ways:
    - First, as an example of how to format your paper.
    - Second, as an example of the level of sophistication your writing should be.
* Write 2-4 pages of double-spaced content in your paper. Do not go over 4 pages.
  + Include a Works Cited page. The Works Cited should be on the last page of your document.
  + Click here to see an example Works Cited page using MLA formatting:
    - <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_sample_works_cited_page.html>
  + Your Works Cited page should only have 4 sources listed: the 3 scholarly journal articles you used for the RAOs and CS&K’s 3rd edition text.
  + No outside sources are necessary for this term paper. Do not use any other sources.
  + TIP: Do not discuss the “RAOs” in your paper. This means do not say “RAO” anywhere in your writing. This paper is about the research articles that you read. The RAO is just a tool for helping you write about them in this paper. No one knows what RAO means, except Dr. Gregg.
  + Remember to give credit to the authors in your writing like this:
    - Mention the authors: One thing that I learned from Williams and Guerra’s research was that, “there is a limited number of studies that specifically have examined the influence of school climate on bullying…” (127).
    - Directly quote without mentioning the authors: “The limited number of studies that specifically have examined the influence of school climate on bullying have largely focused on general school climate” (Williams and Guerra 127).
    - For more help with citating using MLA, check out this website:
      * <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html>
* Outline for Term Paper:
  + **Introduction (1 Paragraph)** – Introduce all of your research articles. Give credit to the authors in your writing. Do not quote anything from your research articles in the introduction. Next, introduce CS&K text. Finally, explain what you will be doing in the paper in the form of a thesis statement.[[5]](#footnote-5)
  + **Describe Research (3 Paragraphs)** – Using your RAOs (as tools), briefly describe each research article. Provide the relevant details found in each of the research articles you found. Give each article a solid paragraph.
    - Do not discuss the RAO here. Rather, say things like this:
      * In their research Williams and Guerra aimed to discover X,Y, and Z.
    - As you write this section, remember to give credit to the authors who wrote the research article by using their last names in your writing.
    - Cite each research article appropriately using MLA.
  + **Connections to CS&K (2 paragraphs)** – How do each of the research articles you found connect to what you learned in CS&K? Show me connections by quoting the CS&K text. When you quote, do so like this: (CS&K 220). In your writing you must make connections at least 3 times (but more is better). After you quote the text, explain the connection you are making between the sources.
  + **Conclusion (1 paragraph)** – Tell the reader the following:
    - What did you learn about religion from your articles?
    - What did you learn from the RAO process? Was it useful? Will you use this tool in other courses going forward?
    - What did you learn from the CS&K text? Be specific.
    - What is your major take-away point from this course learning about the sociology of religion?
* Notes About Writing:
  + Give the paper a creative title. Have some fun with this. It will make it more fun to grade.
  + Please do not quote a fragment of a sentence. In this paper try to quote entire sentences from the sources.
  + Quotes >4 lines should be block and indented. To see how to do this properly for MLA, go to the Purdue Owl (owl.purdue.edu). If you quote something that is 4 lines or more without block and indenting it, you will be deducted formatting points. To see how to do this, click on this URL:
  + <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_quotations.html>

## Grading Step 3 Term Paper – Summary/Critique

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criteria | Points |
| Directions/Grammar/MLA formatting:   * Creative Title * Doesn’t go over 4 pages * Writes at College Level - Ideas connect * Uses MLA perfectly * WC looks good – all 4 sources * Follows directions for what & how to write * Follows structure of the paper * Doesn’t use outside sources * Doesn’t quote fragments * Uses Block and Indent when needed | (25 Points)  (deducted in increments of 5. Once you lose 25 points, you cannot lose any more for these 3 things: Directions/Grammar/MLA) |
| Introduction (Very General):   * Introduces all 3 research articles * Introduces to CS&K * Explains what the paper is about / Thesis | (25 Points) |
| 3 Paragraphs based on RAOs:   * 1 paragraph for each RA read * Explains the relevant details for each RA * Does not discuss or use the term RAO * Writes well / Ideas connect * Quotes and cites correctly using MLA * Gives credit to the scholars | (100 Points)   * 33.3 pts per paragraph |
| 2 Paragraphs connecting with CS&K:   * Links CS&K to what was learned in RAs * Does this 3 X (At least 1 X per article) * Quotes CS&K correctly * Explains connections well | (100 Points)   * 50 pts per paragraph |
| Conclusion (What you learned):   * Explains what he/she learned from RAO process; * Learned about religion from articles; and * what was learned from the CS&K text * To conclude, tell Dr. Gregg what you will take away from this course. | (50 Points) |
| **Total** | (300 Points) |

## OTHER INFORMATION

It is very important that you follow the syllabus each week and check items off as you go. This is because there are other assignment types assigned throughout the course of the semester.

Please remember to complete SPOT evaluation for the course. If this course reaches 80% completion for the SPOT evaluation, Dr. Gregg will allow some extra credit in the course.

**Research Article Overview**

At the top left of the document (.doc, .docx, .pdf only) copy and paste all of the following bolded, underlined, and black typing. Do not miss any section. DELETE THIS and all other instructions for what to write.

**Your Name:**

**Date Due/ RAO#:**

**Topic of RAO**: 1. Your Topic of Choice; 2. Race and Ethnicity 3. Gender and Sexuality (Which one is this?)

**Author(s) Name(s):** Type out the complete name of all authors of your article.

**Title of Research Article:** Must be a scholarly, top-tiered, peer-reviewed journal article. For purposes of SOCI 3700, I will only accept reviews on articles from journals mentioned on pp. 29-30 of the CS&K text. These are BEST journals to look in for research on religion:

1. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)*
2. *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review (ASR)*
3. *Review of Religious Research (RRR)*
4. *American Sociological Review*

**Name of Journal:** *Italicize this.*

**Date Research Article Published:**  Must be 2010 or more current.

**Study Rationale:** What issue/topic with religion under investigation? What do the researchers want to know?

**Study Design:** How do the researchers propose to study this issue/topic related to religion? Is the study quantitative or qualitative? How can you tell?

**Describe Data Collected:** What kind of data do the researchers collect? What or who do the researchers propose to study? Where does the study take place? When did the study take place? How much time did it take the researchers? Did the researchers receive funding for this study?

**Literature Review:** Tell me at least two things you learned from the literature review that these researchers conducted for their research. (Researchers must make a case for what they study. To do this, they do research themselves. They cite other studies. What did you learn from the other studies that the researchers discuss? How do these other studies relate to your own study? Be sure to cite these other studies in your writing.)

**Main findings/results/conclusions:** What are the main findings/results/conclusions from this study? This is usually found in the last 1-3 pages of a research article. What contribution did these scholars believe they made to our knowledge about religion in society?

**Criticisms/Opinion:** What do you think about this research article? What is your opinion of the research? Do you have any criticisms of the study? Did the researchers miss something? What more needs to be researched regarding the topic related to religion in society? Do the researchers offer suggestions for future research?

**Connections to Course Materials (Christiano, Swatos & Kivisto’s book):** This is the hardest and the most important part of the RAO assignment. This is because being able to make connections between your research article and the text tests your knowledge of the course material. If you do not do well here, you will not earn all of the points for the RAO. So, in this part of the RAO your aim is to connect something in your research article with different things CS&K say in the text. Then explain what the connections mean. Use quotes from CS&K to illustrate your points. When you do so, cite the source and page number like this: (CS&K 220). This section of the RAO will be the most helpful for you when you go to write your RAO Summary/Critique Term Paper at the end of the course. This is because if you do well here, you’ll be able to use this in your final paper.

1. Referred to in Syllabus as CS&K. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. CS&K stands for Christiano, Swatos, and Kivisto’s text which is required for the course. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The BEST journals to use are listed on the RAO Template. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. RAOs will be used to write the Term Paper. If you put page numbers in now, you won’t have to hunt for the quotes later. Think of the RAO as a tool for writing a bigger paper. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. A thesis statement is a controlling statement that governs the content of each paragraph you write in the paper. It connects everything you write. It explains the BIG PICTURE of the paper. Think of it as a commercial for what is to come in your writing. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)