# Sociology of Religion

# SOCI 3700-001 (12827) / Fall 2022 Online

## Dr. Karen Monique Gregg / TA TBA

## **IMPORTANT UNT DATES**

Classes Begin: August 29th Last Day of Class: December 8th

Labor Day: September 5th Reading Day: December 9th

Mid-Semester: October 21st Final Exams: December 10th – 16th

## **IMPORTANT DUE DATES IN THIS COURSE**

* Required Week One:
  + Syllabus Quiz due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) Saturday 9/3.
* 11 Chapter Quizzes:
  + 11 Weekly Quizzes over each of the chapters in the CS&K text. These quizzes are due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturdays.
* 3 Research Article Overviews (RAO):
  + Step 1s – due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on the following Wednesdays: 9/21, 11/2, 11/30.
  + Step 2s - due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on the following Saturdays: 9/24, 11/5, 12/3.
* 3 Tests:
  + All 3 Tests are completed online.
    - Test 1 due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 10/8.
    - Test 2 due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 10/29.
    - Test 3 due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Monday 12/12.
  + NOTE: The course is considered over at midnight (11:59 p.m.) on 12/12.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Office Hours:Dr. Gregg is available by appointment only. Reach out to her using the Inbox in Canvas to set up a mutually agreeable time.

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

Unavailable:Dr. Gregg and the TA do not respond to emails or messages in the evenings and on weekends. If you email either of them then, please expect a reply on the next business day.

TA Responsibilities:TBA

## **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.

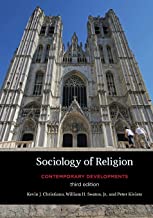
## **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

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 LEVEL OBJECTIVES**

* By the end of the course, students will be able to:
  + Understand how sociologists approach the study of religion in society.
  + Apply this understanding to research articles in the Sociology of Religion.
  + Remember sociological methods, concepts, terms, and theories about the sociology of religion.

## **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 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). Please contact Willis Library for more information.

Over the course of the semester, students are required to acquire 3 research articles from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals pertaining to the sociology of religion by using the UNT Library system. The 3 topics of these research articles are:

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

### **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 (and the TA if there is one):**

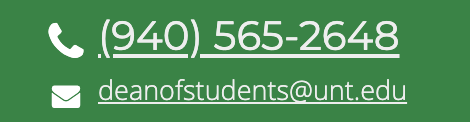
1. Respect and active listening.
2. Consistent grading with return time within one-two weeks.
3. Willingness to teach, learn and answer questions.
4. To be prepared each week for our class.
5. To allow ample opportunity for you to do well in this course.
6. To be available by Zoom appointment for additional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

### **What we expect from you:**

1. Patience with instructors 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. (See page 1 of this Syllabus.)
4. Consistent participation in class and online. If it appears you are not actively engaged in this course, Prof. Gregg (or the TA) 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 quizzes and completing all writing assignments. Your work should be your own. Cheating will not be tolerated! For more specifics, see the UNT policy on academic dishonesty.
7. To read the grading comments that Prof. Gregg (and the TA) provide on all of your assignments. She will incorporate tips about how you can do better on the next assignment. If you need extra help with your writing, Dr. Gregg will suggest that you use the Writing Center on campus (Sage Hall).
8. To not plagiarize the reading materials used in this course. This means citing ideas and thoughts that are not your own. This is especially important to do when summarizing the research articles you find for the RAO assignments.
9. 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. If you contact Dr. Gregg within a week of receiving the zero (0), she will help you sort out your mistake. If you do not reach out to her within a week, the zero (0) will stand as your grade.
10. To follow ALL directions in the syllabus. If you do not, you will automatically receive a zero (0) on the assignment submitted.
11. 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.* 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 Dr. Gregg (or the TA) happen to look up something you quote from CS&K (or elsewhere) 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 usually help students get on track.
4. Contact the Dean of Students, Seeking Options and Solutions (S.O.S) Office in the event of a personal emergency in your life. This includes extended illness or hospitalization, death in family, or other personal issue that hinders your possibility of success in the course. Here is the URL and the contact information for that office.
   * <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/seeking-options-and-solutions>



## **ASSIGNMENTS & TECHNICAL ISSUES**

All assignments should be submitted by the indicated dates and times embedded in the syllabus (also see page 1). 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 **PRIOR TO** missing the assignment. When students do this, Dr. Gregg routinely grants extensions.
* Each student is allowed **only one documented emergency** per semester.
* As stated above, in the event your emergency-situation is very serious, Dr. Gregg will prompt you to contact the Dean of Students in order to receive a blanket excuse from the University for your work.
  + Caitlin Edgar, M.S., Student Services Coordinator, Dean of Students Office, [Caitlin.edgar@unt.edu](mailto:Caitlin.edgar@unt.edu), 940-565-2648.

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. If the campus is closed for some reason (e.g., due to COVID), you are expected to find some other means to complete your work.

## **Summary of Course Assignments and Point Values**

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| Assignment | Description | Points |
| Week One | Syllabus Quiz  All students are required to take this quiz before completing work in the course. | 50 Points |
| 11 Chapter Quizzes | 11 Chapter Quizzes over CS&K.  Required to take 10. If you take them all, the lowest grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.  (10 X 100 = 1000) | 1000 Points |
| 3 Research Article Overviews (2 Steps) | **Step 1:** Find approved research article  (3 X 50 = 150) | 150 Points |
|  | **Step 2:** Summarize research article by completing the Research Article Overview template.  (3 X 100 = 300) | 300 Points |
| 3 Tests | 3 Tests over each Part of CS&K text.   * Test 1 Chs 1-4 * Test 2 Chs 5-7 * Test 3 Chs 8-11   (3 X 200 = 600) | 600 Points |
| TOTAL |  | 2100 Points |

## **Dr. Gregg’s Grading Scale**

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

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| **Percent** | **Letter Grade** |
| 90-100% of 2100 Points | A |
| 80-89% of 2100 Points | B |
| 70-79% of 2100 Points | C |
| 60-69% of 2100 Points | D |
| 59% or less of 2100 Points | F |

# **Tentative Course Schedule**

## **Week 1 (8/28-9/3) Getting Stuff and Getting Started**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify information about the assignments, expectations, and point values in the course.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Buy book * Read Syllabus * Watch Dr. Gregg’s film introducing you to the course | UNT bookstore  In Canvas  In Canvas |
|  | Syllabus Quiz (REQUIRED) | The quiz is in Canvas and is due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 9/3 |

## Part One: The Basics

## **Week 2 (9/4-9/10) Ch1 By Way of Introduction**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to the definitional problem of religion (Ch1).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take Ch1 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 9/10 |

## **Week 3 (9/11-9/17) Ch2 Studying Religion**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to methods and theory related to studying religion in society (Ch2).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take Ch2 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 9/17 |

## **Week 4 (9/18-9/24) Research Week (RAO1)**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Evaluate research article related to religion and race and/or ethnicity.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
| Step 1 | * Find Research Article based on religion and race and/or ethnicity. * Save as a PDF file. * The research article must come from one of the following journals:   + *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)*   + *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review (ASR)*   + *Review of Religious Research (RRR)*   + *American Sociological Review (ASR)* * Upload research article (in PDF form) to Canvas. * Points will be awarded after Dr. Gregg (or the TA) approves your research article. Do not proceed to Step 2 until this happens. | RAO, Step 1 is worth 100 points  Upload PDF file to Canvas before midnight on Wednesday 9/21. |
| Step 2 | * Read your research article. * Use the RAO directions and blank form to fill in the relevant details for your research article. * Upload to Canvas in the correct spot. | Upload your RAO to Canvas before midnight on Saturday, 9/24. |

## **Week 5 (9/25-10/1) Ch3 The “Religion” of Secularization and the History of Religions**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to secularization theory (Ch3).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take Ch3 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 10/1 |

## **Week 6 (10/2-10/8) Ch4 Religion in the United States: Denominationalism and Beyond**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to religion in the United States (Ch4).
* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to chapters 1-4.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take Ch4 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 10/8 |
|  | * Review chapters 1-4 for Test 1 * Review notes * Rewatch Dr. Gregg’s videos to prepare * Take Test 1 over Chs 1-4 of the CS&K text. | Complete the Test 1 online in Canvas before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 10/8. |

## Part Two: Religion and Social Differentiation

## **Week 7 (10/9-10/15) Ch5 Social Class, Religion, and Power: A Classic Field of Inquiry**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to social class, religion, and power (Ch5).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take Ch5 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 10/15 |

NOTE: 10/21 is the midpoint in the semester

## **Week 8 (10/16-10/22) Ch6 Religion and Ethnicity: A Complex Relationship**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to religion and ethnicity (Ch6).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch6 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 10/22 |

## **Week 9 (10/23-10/29) Ch7 Gender, Sexuality, and Religion: Spirituality in Different Voices**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to gender, sexuality, and religion (Ch7).
* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to chapters 5-7.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch7 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 10/29 |
|  | * Review chapters 6-7 for Test 2 * Review notes * Rewatch Dr. Gregg’s videos to prepare * Take Test 2 over Chs 6-7 of the CS&K text. | Complete the Test 2 online in Canvas before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday, 10/29. |

## **Week 10 (10/30-11/5) Research Week (RAO2)**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Evaluate research article related to religion and gender and/or sexuality.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
| Step 1 | * Find Research Article based on religion and gender and/or sexuality. * Save as a PDF file. * The research article must come from one of the following journals:   + *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)*   + *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review (ASR)*   + *Review of Religious Research (RRR)*   + *American Sociological Review (ASR)* * Upload research article (in PDF form) to Canvas. * Points will be awarded after Dr. Gregg (or the TA) approves your research article. Do not proceed to Step 2 until this happens. | RAO, Step 1 is worth 100 points  Upload PDF file to Canvas before midnight on Wednesday 11/2. |
| Step 2 | * Read your research article. * Use the RAO directions and blank form to fill in the relevant details for your research article. * Upload to Canvas in the correct spot. | Upload your RAO to Canvas before midnight on Saturday, 11/5. |

## Part Three: Religion, Culture, and Change

## **Week 11 (11/6-11/12) Ch8 Religious Change: The Case of Catholicism in the U.S.**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to religious change and the case of Catholicism in the U.S. (Ch8).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch8 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 11/12 |

## **Week 12 (11/13-11/19)**

## **Ch9 The Globalization Dynamic: Historic Animosities or Postmodern Politics?**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to globalization and historic animosities (Ch9).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch9 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 11/19 |

## **Week 13 (11/20-11/26) THANKSGIVING WEEK**

## **Ch10 Mediating Meaning: Religion in—and as—Contemporary Culture**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to religion in contemporary culture (Ch10).

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|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch10 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 11/26 |
| 11/23-11/25 | THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY | NO CLASSES |

## **Week 14 (11/27-12/3) Research Week (RAO3)**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Evaluate research article related to a topic of interest to you in the Sociology of Religion.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
| Step 1 | * Find Research Article based on religion and any topic of your choice. * Save as a PDF file. * The research article must come from one of the following journals:   + *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)*   + *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review (ASR)*   + *Review of Religious Research (RRR)*   + *American Sociological Review (ASR)* * Upload research article (in PDF form) to Canvas. * Points will be awarded after Dr. Gregg (or the TA) approves your research article. Do not proceed to Step 2 until this happens. | RAO, Step 1 is worth 100 points  Upload PDF file to Canvas before midnight on Wednesday 11/30. |
| Step 2 | * Read your research article. * Use the RAO directions and blank form to fill in the relevant details for your research article. * Upload to Canvas in the correct spot. | Upload your RAO to Canvas before midnight on Saturday, 12/3. |

## **Week 15 (12/4-12/10) Ch11 Boundary Issues: Church, State, and New Religions**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to boundary issues (Ch11).

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Read the Chapter * Take notes * Watch Dr. Gregg’s videos | Text  In Canvas |
|  | Take the Ch11 Quiz | Due before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Saturday 12/10 |

## **Week 16 (12/10-12/16) Final Exams Time**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

* Recall and identify concepts, terms, theories, and research related to chapters 8-11.

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| **Check** | **Description of Work** | **More Details** |
|  | * Review chapters 6-7 for Test 2 * Review notes * Rewatch Dr. Gregg’s videos to prepare * Take Test 3 over Chs 8-11 of the CS&K text. | Complete the Test 3 online in Canvas before midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Monday 12/12. |
| NOTE | This course should be considered over after Test 3 closes. If you miss taking this Test, you’ve missed the opportunity for these points in the course. |  |

Thank you for taking this course!

# MORE DETAILS ON COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

## **SYLLABUS QUIZ (50 POINTS)**

## After reading the syllabus and attending both sessions in the first week of class, students are required to take a Quiz over the Syllabus at the end of week one. Students are allowed 30 minutes to complete the Quiz and are permitted two attempts. So, if you do not earn 50 on the first attempt, please reread the Syllabus and take the quiz again. The highest score will be recorded in the grade book.

## **CHAPTER QUIZZES (1000 POINTS)**

After reading each chapter in the CS&K text, students are required to take a short 30-minute Quiz in Canvas. If you carefully read the chapter and take good notes while you read, and watch Dr. Gregg’s (optional) videos you should do very well on the Quizzes.

### **Details**

* There is a quiz for each chapter in the CS&K text (11). You are required to take 10 of the 11 quizzes. If you take them all, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester. Students should not miss more than one quiz in this course.
* Quizzes open on Sunday at 12:00 a.m. of each week and close on Saturday at midnight (11:59 p.m.).
* Each Quiz is worth 100 Points
* As you take the quiz, you will be presented with10 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 their use in this course. All of the answers can be found in the CS&K text.
* Students are allowed 30 minutes to complete each Quiz. After 30 minutes your Quiz will automatically submit and your grade will be recorded in the grade book.
* You are only permitted one attempt on each Quiz.
* Quizzes are open book and students can use the notes they take as they read.
* Students should not work with others to complete the Quizzes.
* Quizzes are open from day one of the course. This means you can work ahead in this course.
* Because students are allowed to work ahead in this course, there will be no make-up Quizzes permitted. If you think you might miss a deadline for a Quiz, you are permitted to take it early. If you miss a Quiz, the grade book will be populated with a zero.

**THREE TESTS (600 POINTS)**

There are three parts to the CS&K book. After completing a part to the book, you will be expected to take a one-hour test demonstrating your mastery of the material in that part of the book. If you have kept up with the readings, attended class lectures, taken good notes in lecture, and followed the instructions in the syllabus and in Canvas, you should do very well on the tests.

### **Details:**

## Each test is worth up to 200 points.

* As you take the test, you will be presented with a combination of 25-40 True/False and Multiple Choice test questions to answer.
* Test questions will be separated into sections for each chapter.
* There is only one best answer for each question.
* You are permitted 1 hour to take each test (60 minutes). After that, your test will automatically submit and your grade will be recorded in the grade book.
* You are only permitted one attempt for each test.
* The tests are open book and students can use their notes from class while taking the tests.
* Students should not work with others when taking the tests.
* Tests open on Sundays at 12:00 a.m. the week they fall due.
* Tests 1 and 2 close on Saturdays before midnight (11:59 p.m.)
* Test 3 closes sometime during Final Exams week. Consult the syllabus for the exact date and time for the final exam. Test 3 will be due at that time. Once Test 3 is over, the course should be considered closed.
* If you need to arrange for a different date or time for one of the tests, you must request this from Dr. Gregg at least one week in advance of the due date for the test. If you do this, she will work with you to arrange a different time.
* If you miss a test, you have missed your opportunity to earn these points in the course.
* The course is considered over after the Final Exam time ends.

## **RESEARCH ARTICLE OVERVIEWS (RAO) (450 Points)**

There are two steps to the RAO assignments. Both steps are described below.

## Summary of RAO Assignments and Values

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Part 1 of Course | Part 2 of Course | Part 3 of Course |
| Find a research article about religion and race and/or ethnicity. | Find a research article specifically related to religions and gender and/or sexuality. | Find a research article specifically related to religion and a topic of your choosing. |
| Step 1: 50 Pts for finding a research article that meets the 4 criteria and uploading a PDF of it to Canvas before the deadline.  Step 2: 100 Pts to complete the RAO Template. | Step 1: 50 Pts for finding a research article that meets the 4 criteria and uploading a PDF of it to Canvas before the deadline.  Step 2: 100 Pts to complete the RAO Template. | Step 1: 50 Pts for finding a research article that meets the 4 criteria and uploading a PDF of it to Canvas before the deadline.  Step 2: 100 Pts to complete the RAO Template. |
| 150 Points | 150 Points | 150 Points |

## **Step 1 of RAO Assignment:**

Periodically, students will use the UNT library system to find scholarly, peer-reviewed, journal articles pertaining to the sociology of religion. Dr. Gregg has made a video to show you how to do this.

* In Part 1, you will find a research article in the Sociology of Religion that is about religion and race and ethnicity.
* In Part 2, you will find a research article in the Sociology of Religion about gender and/or sexuality.
* In Part 3, you will find a research article in the Sociology of Religion about a topic of your choosing.

For each research article you find, four criteria must be met in order to use it for the RAO process:

1. Research articles must be from one of the following scholarly journals:
   * *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion (JSSR)*
   * *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review (ASR)*
   * *Review of Religious Research (RRR)*
   * *American Sociological Review (ASR)*
2. Articles must be dated 2010 or more recent.
3. Research articles must collect and/or analyze data. This means there should be a “Data and/or Methods” section in your article, as well as some form of scientific analysis.
4. The articles you find should pertain to religion AND the assigned topic.

NOTE: Students should not submit speeches, research notes,[[1]](#footnote-1) book reviews, or theoretical articles. These publications do not meet the criteria for this assignment.

If your article does not meet all four criteria listed above, you will be awarded zero (0) points on Step 1 and you should contact Dr. Gregg or the TA as soon as possible because you will need to take special steps when you proceed to Step 2.

## **Grading Research Article Submission (Step 1):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Points** |
| Student does the following:   1. Finds research article from one of the approved journals. 2. Research article submitted is 2010 or more recent. 3. Research article collects data to analyze. There is a data and/or methods section in the research article. 4. Research article is about religion and the topic assigned. | (0 or 50 points)  If the research article submitted does not meet all 4 of the criteria on the left, student earns 0 points. |

## **Step 2 of RAO Assignment:**

For Step 2, read and summarize the research article that you found for Step 1. Research articles are hard to read. Everyone knows this, but it is still an important skill to learn how to do. This is why we use a template (or a form) to guide us and so that we know what to look for to understand the meaning of the research being conducted.

## **For Step 2, do the following:**

1. Carefully read the research article.
2. Complete the **Blank RAO** (last page of the Syllabus) summarizing the relevant details from the research. To do this, look at the directions on the RAO template that explains how to complete the blank form. The RAO template can be found on the next to the last page of the syllabus.
3. After filling in the relevant details summarizing your research article, upload to Canvas in the correct spot by the correct due date in the syllabus. PDF is the preferred format for this assignment.

## **More Details for Completing RAO:**

1. Use your best college writing when filling in the relevant details of the research article you found and read. Strive to answer all questions asked. This means that you should try to address all prompts in the directions on the template. If you cannot find the information, say that. For example, if the research article does not discuss how the research was funded, say this in your RAO. Note that if Dr. Gregg (or the TA) CAN find where the funding is discussed, you will lose points in this section of the assignment.
2. Single-space your writing. Do not double space.
3. Do not use the language in the **Abstract** to fill in the details of the RAO. This is the same as cheating. The idea is for you to practice reading scholarly research and practice summarizing it in a succinct manner. If you use language from the **Abstract**, you will be awarded a zero (0).
4. As much as possible use your own words to describe the research. This means write in a narrative format. Do not use bullet points. It is okay to quote from the article, but if you do, use quotation marks and cite it appropriately (i.e., put the page number for the quote).
5. Students will be graded for accuracy of what they describe from their article, as well as the quality and quantity of writing. It should be clear that you learned something from the research article.
6. The MOST IMPORTANT part of this assignment is the “Connections” section. Sometimes students don’t write enough here and lose points. Be sure to make more than one solid connection between what you learn from the research article and the CS&K text. Quote full passages from the CS&K text to illustrate your connections. Note that 25% of your grade on Step 2 is based on how well you make connections.
7. About quantity: Try to fill 2 pages, but do not go over 2 pages of single-spaced writing. If you go over 2 pages of single spaced writing, you will lose points.

## **Grading Completed Research Article Overviews (Step 2):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 * Single spaces writing, does not use bullets, writes in narrative form * Writes using their BEST COLLEGE WRITING (sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, cite quotes properly) * Doesn’t skip a section * Doesn’t borrow language from the **Abstract** | (25 Points) |
| **Describes research article:**   * Study Rationale (5 points) * Study Design (5 points) * Describes 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) | (50 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 #) * Connections between research article and CS&K are clear and solid (they make sense and are explained well) | (25 Points) |
| **TOTAL** | **(100 Points)** |

**Research Article Overview Template**

**(DIRECTIONS)**

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. Race and Ethnicity 2. Gender and Sexuality 3. Your Topic of Choice (Which one is this?)

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

**Title of Research Article Under Review:** Must be a scholarly, top-tiered, peer-reviewed journal article. For purposes of SOCI 3700, I will only accept articles from the following journals:

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 (ASR)*

**Name of Journal Research Article Comes From:** *Italicize this.*

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

**Study Rationale:** What issue/topic with religion under investigation? What did the researchers want to know? Why did they want to know this? (In other words, what was the point of this research?)

**Study Design and Data Collection:** How did the researchers study this issue/topic related to religion? How did they go about collecting their data? What kind of data did the researchers collect (interviews, surveys, participant observation, content analysis)? Who did they study? What population? Where did the study take place? Is the study quantitative or qualitative? How can you tell? 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 2 things you learned from the literature review that these researchers conducted. (EXPLANATION: Researchers must make a case for what they study. To do this, they do research themselves. They tell us about and cite other studies. What did you learn from the other studies that the researchers discuss? Be sure to cite these other studies in your writing. This means tell me the authors’ names.)

**Main findings/results/conclusions:** What were 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? Did they accomplish what they set out to do? (Revisit what you wrote in the Study Rationale.)

**Criticisms/Opinion:** What do you think about this research article? What is your opinion? 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 CS&K:** 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 CS&K text tests your knowledge of the course material. If you do not do well here, you will not earn all the points for the RAO. So, in this part of the RAO your aim is to connect something from the research you read to different information CS&K discuss in their text. Then, briefly explain what the connections mean. Use direct quotes from CS&K to illustrate your points. When you do so, cite like this: (CS&K 220).

**Research Article Overview\_\_\_**

**Your Name:**

**Date Due/RAO#:**

**Topic of RAO**:

**Author(s):**

**Title of Research Article Under Review:**

**Name of Journal Research Article Comes From:**

**Date Research Article Published:**

**Study Rationale:**

**Study Design and Data Collection:**

**Literature Review:**

**Main findings/results/conclusions:**

**Criticisms/Opinion:**

**Connections to CS&K:**

1. Research Notes are written in response to an earlier publication. They are usually shorter. That’s why they do not meet the criteria for this course. To be safe, find research articles that are 30-50 pages in length. If you submit a short article (<30 pages), you will earn zero. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)