

**CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE PROGRAM
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

PROPOSED COURSE OFFERINGS 2021-2022

**Fall / Winter 2021-2022 Preliminary Timetable
subject to change.**

CHC203Y1Y CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIETY THROUGH THE AGES

Instructor: Michael O'Connor/Jean-Olivier Richard **Class:** Monday 2-4; Wednesday 2-3

This course explores the historical engagement of various Christian traditions with the prevailing political, social, and ethnic cultures in the western world and beyond. Students will also examine the development of Christianity as it confronts changes in the symbolic and intellectual universes from antiquity to post-modernity.

Exclusion: SMC203Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

Breadth Requirements: Society and its Institutions (3); Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC215H1F VARIETIES OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Instructor: Giulio Silano **Class:** Tuesday 3-5

Christian history has been characterized by an enduring and fruitful search for forms of religious community. This course surveys some communal attempts to express Christianity, monasticism, forms of common life for clerics, the Mendicants, lay confraternities, religious orders, and contemporary lay movements.

Exclusion: SMC215H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

CHC232H1F CHRISTIANITY AND SCIENCE

Instructor: Jean-Olivier Richard **Class:** Wednesday 11-1

This course examines different models of relating Christianity and Science. Beginning with the biblical view on the natural world and moving to the present, the lectures develop a wide range of approaches.

Exclusion: SMC232H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

JCA302H1S THE BIBLE AND THE BIG BANG

Instructor: Adam Hincks **Class:** Tuesday 10-12

The origin of the Universe is addressed both by current physical cosmology and by religious interpretations of the Bible. This course explores how these approaches to the cosmos's origins differ and how they might be mutually informative. Core concepts in each domain will be examined and definitions carefully distinguished (e.g., 'nothing', 'cause', 'matter'): topics will include the question of temporal beginnings (scientific theories of spontaneous creation or an eternal universe vis-à-vis the doctrine of creation from nothing) and the problem of cosmic fine tuning (the multiverse vis-à-vis the idea of divine intervention).

Prerequisite: Completion of 4.0 credits

Recommended Preparation: AST101H1/AST201H1/AST121H1/AST221H1/AST222H1, SMC232H1/CHC232H1

Distribution Requirements: Science, Humanities

CHC305H1F CHRISTIANITY AND POPULAR CULTURE

Literature

Instructor: Stephen Tardif **Class:** Monday 3-5

An examination of both overt and covert representations of Christian ideas in contemporary popular media. We examine the ways in which Christian themes have been appropriated and subverted in mass media, while also examining the innovative ways these themes, such as redemption, sacrifice, vocation, and hope, are presented anew.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC305H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC200H1/CHC367H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

CHC305H1S CHRISTIANITY AND POPULAR CULTURE
Science Fiction

Instructor: Jean-Olivier Richard

Class: Thursday 12-2

An examination of both overt and covert representations of Christian ideas in contemporary popular media. We examine the ways in which Christian themes have been appropriated and subverted in mass media, while also examining the innovative ways these themes, such as redemption, sacrifice, vocation, and hope, are presented anew.

Prerequisite: Completion of 4.0 FCEs

Exclusion: SMC305H1

Recommended preparation: CHC200H1/CHC367H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

CHC307H1S SCRIPTURE IN CHRISTIAN TRADITION

Instructor: Daniel Donovan

Class: Wednesday 3-5

The formation and content of the Christian Bible; an introduction to the history of its interpretation and of the role it has played and continues to play in Christian life and culture.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC307Y1, SMC307H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1, CHC215H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC313H1S CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN ONTARIO

Instructor: Mark McGowan

Class: Thursday 2-4

An historical appraisal of the evolution of Catholic schools, universities, and catechetical education in Ontario. Special emphasis is placed on the evolution of Ontario's separate school system

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC313H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

CHC327H1F RITUAL AND WORSHIP

Instructor: Michael O'Connor

Class: Tuesday 1-3

An introduction to Christian ritual and worship, in cross-cultural and ecumenical perspective. Biblical roots, historical development and diverse adaptations of Christian worship in Europe, North America and the global South.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC216Y1, SMC327H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC330H1S CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN TRADITION

Instructor: Reid Locklin

Class: Monday and Wednesday 11-12

Faith in Christ is central to Christianity. This course offers an advanced introduction to classical debates about the person and work of Christ, the modern Quest of the Historical Jesus, and selected feminist, liberationist and indigenized perspectives on Christ from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC330Y1, SMC330H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC364H1F THE CHRISTIAN BOOK

Instructor: Stephen Tardif

Class: Wednesday 3-5

An interdisciplinary examination of the Bible as artifact and as an index of culture, art, and language. Topics include: the mediaeval giant Bibles, illuminated and illustrated Bibles, the Gutenberg Bible, The King James Bible, the Bible industry, the Bible online, the Bible as sacred object, sacred language and vernacular.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC364H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC200H1/CHC367H1/SMC228H1/SMC229H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

CHC367H1S CHRISTIANITY, LITERATURE AND THEATRE

Instructor: Stephen Tardif

Class: Thursday 10-12

This course introduces students to works of literary and dramatic arts from throughout the global Christian tradition. The course explores the complex relationships that exist between religious, narrative, and performative imperatives; between theological and cultural sources; between authority and experience; and between writers, playwrights, and their readerships and audiences.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC201H1, SMC367H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1, CHC215H1/CHC200H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

CHC370H1F THE BIBLE AND BIOLOGY

Instructor: Jean-Olivier Richard

Class: Thursday 2-4

Episodes and issues in the development of biology, genetics and evolutionary theory in relation to Christian understandings of the natural world, the human person, and God. Possible topics include genetic determinism, mind and intelligence, gender, reproductive technologies, cosmology and ecology.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC370H1

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1/CHC232H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC371H1F FAITH AND PHYSICS

Instructor: Adam Hincks

Class: Tuesday 10-12

The complex interplay between religious belief, culture, and the emergence of modern physical theory: rise and fall of mechanistic theories, relativity, particle physics and models of the Universe, Big Bang theory and Black Holes, etc.

Prerequisite: 4.0 credits

Exclusion: SMC371H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC390Y1 / CHC391H1F / CHC391H1S INDEPENDENT STUDIES IN CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a Christianity and Culture faculty member. Application forms are available from the SMC Principal's Office. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 4.0 credits and written approval of Program Coordinator and Director

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

CHC400H1S ADVANCED TOPICS IN CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE I

The Idea of a Catholic University

Instructor: Stephen Tardif

Class: Wednesday 1-2 and Friday 10-12

What is a Catholic university, and what makes it distinct from other institutions? What relationship between academic work and religious commitment does this institution propose? What unique contributions can it offer—and what particular challenges might it face? And, if its role changes according to historical circumstance, what should the Catholic university be today?

This seminar seeks to answer these questions by exploring the history, mission, and function of the university as such and the distinctive nature and aims of the Catholic university in particular. We will read the canonical texts, theorists, and Church documents, and will survey a range of contemporary monographs on relevant related topics as well.

Prerequisite: 8.0 credits

Recommended Preparation: CHC203Y1/SMC203Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CHC433Y1 / CHC434H1F / CHC434H1S INDEPENDENT STUDIES IN CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a Christianity and Culture faculty member. Application forms are available from the SMC Principal's Office. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 8.0 credits and written approval of the Program Coordinator and Director

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

SMC457H1F/SMC457H1S DIRECTED RESEARCH

Based on a professor's research project currently in progress, this course will enable an undergraduate student to play a useful role in the project while receiving hands-on training in research.

Prerequisite: Permission of Program Director

June 17, 2021