**HRS 155: SPIRIT AND NATURE  Spring 2010**

Dr. Maria Jaoudi  
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E-mail: jaoudim@csus.edu  
Office Hours: TU & TH 12:00-1:30pm; M &W 3:00–5:00pm online; and by appointment

**Course Description:**  
A comparative inquiry into the critical connection between religion and nature. Traditional views of selfhood, the Sacred, morality, and specific ecological issues such as energy consumption will be examined through representative sources in the world’s religious traditions.

**Learning Outcomes:**  
Students explain, organize, discuss, and interpret the topics listed in the syllabus. Students comprehend the connection between the language of religious traditions and environmental concerns. Issues addressed in *Spirit and Nature* serve each student well in terms of personal, professional, and global citizenship responsibilities. Regarding the student’s critical thinking, he/she develops analytical evaluative skills, making it possible to interpret diverse views of selfhood, morality, and the sacred. The multicultural range of texts for the course satisfies the department and university’s mission of educating globally informed citizens.

In this online learning course students practice reading and study skills and, with assistance from the professor, improve critical thinking and questioning abilities. With face-to-face and online contact with the professor, and with testing, students will be able to interact, understand and integrate the reading, research, and films for the course into a lifetime of intellectual exploration.

**Required Texts:**

Thich Nhat Hanh. *The Sun My Heart*  
Maria Jaoudi. *Christian & Islamic Spirituality: Sharing a Journey*

**Required Films**

Students are responsible for Films assigned. Purchase/rent through Netflix, e.g.  
*Baraka*. Director, Ron Fricke
**Princess Mononoke.** Director, Hayao Miyasaki

**Whale Rider.** Director, Niki Caro

Check HRS 155 SacCT for Reading and Notetaking Strategies

**Recommended Texts:**

Thomas Berry. *The Great Work: Our Way into the Future*

Christopher Chapple. *Nonviolence to Animals, Earth, and Self in Asian Traditions*

J. M. Coetzee. *Elizabeth Costello*

Gai-fu Feng and Jane English. *Tao Te Ching*

Ursula Goodenough. *The Sacred Depths of Nature*

Maria Jaoudi. *Christian Mysticism: East & West*

John Daido Loori. *Teachings of the Earth: Zen and the Environment*

John Muir, *Travels in Alaska*

Mary Oliver, *New and Selected Poems: Volume I*

Joel Primack and Nancy Abrams. *The View from the Center of the Universe*

The following texts are published through Harvard University Press; new issues are forthcoming in other world traditions:

**Judaism and Ecology**
**Christianity and Ecology**
**Islam and Ecology**
**Buddhism and Ecology**
**Daoism and Ecology**
**Confucianism and Ecology**
**Indigenous Tradition and Ecology**
**Hinduism and Ecology**
Schedule of Classes/Assignments

Week 1

This Sacred Earth: Selections from Nature Writers Linking Nature and Spirit

Matsuo Bashō from the Haibun
William Hazlitt “On the lure of the Country”
Henry David Thoreau from “Walking”
Ralph Waldo Emerson “Nature”
John Muir from Thousand –Mile Walk to the Gulf
Aldo Leopold from A Sand Country Almanac
Luther Standing Bear “Nature”
Robert Finch “Seeing the Light”
Linda Hogan “The Kill Hole”

Running with the Wolves

Myths and Stories: The Bounty of the Wild Archetype
Singing Over the Bones Pages 1-20
The Howl: Resurrection of the Wild 21-34
The Beginning Initiation 35-69

Week 2

This Sacred Earth: How Have Traditional Religions Viewed Nature?

Fanetorens “The Creation”
“Death and Rebirth of the Universe (Hindu)”
“The Five Suns” (Aztec)
“Persephone” (Greek)
R.P. Harrison from Forests: The Shadow of Civilization
Lao Tzu from the Tao Te Ching
Hebrew Bible Selections
Qur’an Selections
Daniel Swartz Jews, Jewish Texts, and Nature
Louis Ginzberg from Legends of the Bible
Anna Peterson Christian Theological Anthropology

Film: Baraka Directed by Ron Fricke
Lecture on SacCT

Week 3

This Sacred Earth: How Have Traditional Religions Viewed Nature? Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M. Kioni Dudley</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian Environmental Philosophy</td>
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<td>C. Kabilsingh</td>
<td>Early Buddhist Views of Nature</td>
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<td>L. Sponsel</td>
<td>The Monk-Cave-Bat-Ecosystem Complex in Thailand</td>
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<td>O.P. Dwivedi</td>
<td>Satyagraha for Conservation: Awakening the Spirit of Hinduism</td>
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<td>Mawil Y. I. Deen</td>
<td>Islamic Environmental Ethics, Law, and Society</td>
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<td>R. Peterson</td>
<td>Central African Voices on the Human-Environment Relationship</td>
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<td>Stan McKay</td>
<td>An Aboriginal Perspective</td>
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<td>P. Segundad</td>
<td>Biodiversity and Tradition in Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Water Woman</td>
<td>A Healer’s Perspective</td>
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Running with the Wolves

The Retrieval of Intuition Pages 70-110

Week 4

This Sacred Earth: Ecotheology in an Age of Environmental Crisis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynn White</td>
<td>The Historical Roots of our Ecological Crisis</td>
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<td>Pope John Paul II</td>
<td>The Ecological Crisis: A Common Responsibility</td>
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<td>American Baptist Churches USA</td>
<td>Creation and the Covenant of Caring</td>
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<td>Evangelical Lutheran Church USA</td>
<td>Basis for Our Caring</td>
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<td>Evangelical Environmental Network</td>
<td>Evangelical Declaration on the Environment</td>
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<td>Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew</td>
<td>Address of His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew</td>
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<tr>
<td>John F. Haught</td>
<td>Christianity and Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>John B. Cobb, Jr.</td>
<td>Protestant Theology and Deep Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sallie McFague</td>
<td>The Scope of the Body: The Cosmic Christ</td>
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Running with the Wolves

The Mate: Union with the Other Pages 111-126

FIRST EXAM Thursday 18 February 12:30am – Friday 19 February 11:00pm
On the First Exam: All the material from Week 1-4

Week 5

The Sun My Heart: From Mindfulness to Insight Contemplation

Introduction
Sunshine and Green Leaves
The Dance of Bees
The Universe in a Speck of Dust
Cutting the Net of Birth & Death
Look Deeply at Your Hand

Running with the Wolves

Life/Death/Life Cycle
Belonging as Blessing

Pages 127-163
164-196

Weeks 6 & 7

Film: Princess Mononoke Director by Hayao Miyazaki

Lecture on SacCT

This Sacred Earth: Ecotheology in an Age of Environmental Crisis Continued

Arthur Waskow
What is Eco-Kosher?

Theodore Walker, Jr.
African-American Resources for a More Inclusive Liberation Theology

Nawal H. Ammar
An Islamic Response to the Manifest Ecological Crisis: Issues of Justice

Christopher Key Chapple
Hinduism and Deep Ecology

Tu Weiming
Beyond the Enlightenment Mentality

Stephanie Kaza
To Save All Beings:

Buddhist Environmental Activism

Gary Kowalski
Somebody, Not Something:

Do Animals Have Souls?

Andrew Linzey
The Theological Basis of Animal Rights

Roger S. Gottlieb
No Place to Hide:

Spirituality, Avoidance, and Denial

Running with the Wolves

The Wild Flesh

Pages 197-212
**Weeks 8 & 9**

**This Sacred Earth: Ecofeminist Spirituality**

Rosemary Radford Ruether  
Ecofeminism: Symbolic and Social Connections of the Oppression of Women and the Domination of Nature

Ivone Gebara  
The Trinity and Human Experience: An Ecofeminist Approach

Shamara Shantu Riley  
The Politics of Emergent Afrocentric Ecowomanism

Karen Baker-Fletcher  
An Eco-Womanist Essay on God, Creation, and Indispensability

Irene Diamond  
Jewish Ecofeminist Practice

Riane Eisler  
The World of the Goddess

B. Medicine Eagle  
The Rainbow Bridge

Vandana Shiva  
The Chipko Women’s Concept of Freedom

**This Sacred Earth: Spiritual Deep Ecology**

Edna St. Vincent Millay  
“The Fawn”

David Abram  
“The Ecology of Magic”

Thomas Berry  
“Into the Future”

Joanna Macy  
“Faith, Power, and Ecology”

Paul Shepard  
from *The Others: How Animals Made us Human*”

**Running with the Wolves**

Self-preservation  
Pages 213-254

Homing: Returning to Oneself  
255-296

**Week 10**

**SECOND EXAM**  
Thursday 8 April 12:30am – Friday 9 April 11:00pm

On the Second Exam: All the material from Week 5-9

**Weeks 10 & 11**

**This Sacred Earth: Religious Practice for a Sacred Earth**

Dee Smith  
Dance to Heal the Earth

Thich Nhat Hanh  
Earth Gathas

Ellen Bernstein  
*Bal Tashchit*
Black Elk
National Council of Churches
John Seed
Joanna Macy
John Seed
Marina Lachecki

This Sacred Earth: Ecology, Religion, and Society

Roger S. Gottlieb
Mark I. Wallace

Running with the Wolves

Clear Water: Nourishing the Creative Life

Week 12

This Sacred Earth: Ecology, Religion, and Society Continued

Sarah M. Taylor
Catherine Ingram
Seth Zuckerman
Evelyn Martin
Bruce Byers
E. Conradie

Running with the Wolves

Heat: Retrieving a Sacred Sexuality
The Boundaries of Rage and Forgiveness

Week 13

Christian and Islamic Spirituality: Sharing a Journey

Introduction
The Way of Love
The Need for Purification
Transformation
Union
A God-Centered Ecology
Afterword

Week 14

This Sacred Earth: Ecology, Religion, and Society Continued

B.D. Sharma On Sustainibility
Mary J. Mananzan Globalization and the Perennial Question of Justice
William F. Fisher Sacred Rivers, Sacred Dams: Competing Visions of Social Justice
United Church of Christ On Environmental Racism in St. Louis
Jonna Higgins-Freese Race, Sacrifice, and Native Lands

Coordinadora de Defensa The Cochabamba Declaration on Water: Globalization,
Del agua y de la Vida Privatization, and the Search for Alternatives
Melody E. Chavis Street Trees
Interfaith Global Climate Statement on Global Warming
Change Campaign
First National People of Color Environmental Principles of Environmental Justice
Leadership Summit
Religious Leaders at the Statement by Religious Leaders
Summit on Environment
Religion and Science for Declaration
the Environment
US Catholic Conference Catholic Social Teaching and Environmental Ethics

Running with the Wolves

Battle Scars Pages 374-386
Finding Love 387-456

Week 15

Film: Whale Rider Directed by Niki Caro
Lecture on SacCT

Running with the Wolves

The Deep Song Pages 456-461
The Wolf’s Eyelash 462-465
Story as Medicine 466-473
Week 16

FINAL EXAM  
Monday 17 May 12:30am – Tuesday 18 May 11:00pm
On the Final Exam: All the material from Week 10-15

Course Policy for Dr. Jaoudi’s HRS Courses

Intellectual exploration is encouraged: The professor is available for additionally scheduled Office Hours for student reflections, discussions, and questions on the reading and film assignments.

Students are responsible for reading assignments, lecture materials, exams, the research paper, and films, depending on the class syllabus.

There are three on-line exams; see the Syllabus Schedule. The exams are not cumulative. For example, exam #2 begins where the previous exam ends.

Each on-line exam contains multiple choice and true/false questions based on ideas and vocabulary obtained from notes on lectures, class discussions, hand-outs, reading assignments, and films, depending on the course content. Each exam is 50 minutes long with 30 questions. Please check your Syllabus on SacCT for the exact on-line exam times and dates.

For one-on-one walk-in and by appointment tutoring help with SacCT, contact the Student Technology Center at stc@csus.edu/telephone (916) 278-2364/Academic Computing Resources building Room 3007.

Students are required to take the Exams in the Student Technology Center insuring assistance with any technology issues. If a student does not take the Exams at STC, he/she takes full responsibility to resolve any technical issues on their own.

It is the student’s responsibility to remember answers given to the online test questions, in order to benefit from the responses after the exam.

There are no make-up exams.

There is no extra credit.

Students with disabilities who require special accommodation must provide disability documentation at SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008 (916) 278-6955. Students with special testing
needs must provide the appropriate forms at least two weeks prior to an exam in order to schedule with the Testing Center.

In **HRS 140**, each exam is 25% of the grade. Exams comprise 75% of the final grade and the research paper 25%. In **HRS 152, HRS 155, and HRS 183**, each exam is 1/3 of the grade. In face-to-face classes, more than two or three absences indicate a lack of participation, even as a listener. At the discretion of the professor, a student’s final grade for the course may go up or down depending on attendance and participation.