

JAUDI-HRS155-FA14

HRS 155: SPIRIT AND NATURE

Fall 2014

Dr. Maria Jaoudi

Office: Mendocino 2018

Telephone: (916) 278-7483

E-mail: jaoudim@csus.edu

Office Hours: MW 11:00-Noon and 1:15-1:45; TR 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:

Clarrisa Pinkola Estés. Women [& Men] Who Run with the Wolves 1995 edition

Gai-fu Feng and Jane English. Tao Te Ching (only the edition with the Jacob Needleman Introduction)

Thich Nhat Hanh. The Sun My Heart

Maria Jaoudi. Medieval and Renaissance Spirituality

Andrew Linzey. Why Animal Suffering Matters: Philosophy, Theology, Practical Ethics

Required Films

Students are responsible for Films assigned. Purchase/ rent through Netflix, e.g.

A selection of films is available at the Library Media Center

Baraka. Director, Ron Fricke

Princess Mononoke. Director, Hayao Miyasaki

Whale Rider. Director, Niki Caro

Speciesism: The Movie. Director, Mark Devries

Check HRS 155 SacCT for Reading and Note-taking 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

John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker. Religion and Ecology

Maria Jaoudi. Christian Mysticism: East & West

John Daido Looi. Teachings of the Earth: Zen and the Environment

John Muir. Travels in Alaska

Mary Oliver. New and Selected Poems: Volume I

Bron Taylor, editor. Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature Volumes I & II

Maathai, Wangari. Replenishing the Earth: Spiritual Values for Healing Ourselves and the World

Jenkins Willis. The Future of Ethics: Sustainability, Social Justice, and Religious Creativity

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

Running with the Wolves

Myths and Stories: The Bounty of the Wild Archetype

Singing Over the Bones

The Howl: Resurrection of the Wild

The Beginning Initiation

Pages 1-20

21-34

35-69

THE SCHEDULE OF THE FRIST EXAM AND MIDTERM IS IN ORDER FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO STUDY DURING THE INITIAL WEEKS OF CLASS; TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS EXTRA TIME TO STUDY

Week 2

Film: *Baraka* Directed by Ron Fricke

Lecture on SacCT home page: Film Study Guides

Weeks 3-4

Running with the Wolves

The Retrieval of Intuition
The Mate: Union with the Other

Pages 70-110
111-126

Weeks 5-7

FIRST EXAM

Wednesday 8 October 12:30am – Thursday 9 October 11:00pm

On the First Exam: All the material from Weeks 1-4

Film: *Princess Mononoke* Director by Hayao Miyazaki
Lecture on SacCT home page: Film Study Guides

Running with the Wolves

Life/Death/Life Cycle
Belonging as Blessing
The Wild Flesh

Pages 127-163
164-196
197-212

Weeks 8

Running with the Wolves

Self-preservation
Homing: Returning to Oneself

Pages 213-254
255-296

MIDTERM EXAM

Wednesday 22 October 12:30am – Thursday 23 October 11:00pm

On the Midterm Exam: All the material from Weeks 5-8

Week 9 & 10

The Sun My Heart

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

Why Animal Suffering Matters

Introduction – Chapter 2

Pages 1-72

Week 11

THIRD EXAM

Wednesday 12 November 12:30 am – Thursday 13 November 11:00 pm

For the Third Exam, Only the book, The Sun My Heart and Why Animal Suffering Matters pages 1-72.

Weeks 11 & 12

Tao Te Ching

Read the entire text including an in-depth study of Jacob Needleman's Introduction

Running with the Wolves

Clear Water: Nourishing the Creative Life

Pages 297-333

Heat: Retrieving a Sacred Sexuality

334-345

The Boundaries of Rage and Forgiveness

346-373

Week 13

Medieval and Renaissance Spirituality

Chapter 3 *The Jewish Mystical View: The Kabbalah*

Chapter 6 *Religion and Ecology: Hildegard of Bingen*

Chapter 7 *Islamic Love Mysticism: Rabi'a and Rumi*

Film: *Whale Rider* Directed by Niki Caro
Lecture on SacCT on home page: Film Study Guides

Week 14

Running with the Wolves

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|--------------|---------------|
| Battle Scars | Pages 374-386 |
| Finding Love | 387-456 |

Film: *Speciesism: The Movie* Directed by Mark Devries
Compare information to the Why Animal Suffering Matters assigned readings
Available to rent for 1.99\$ at vimeo.com

Week 15

Running with the Wolves

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|--------------------|---------------|
| The Deep Song | Pages 456-461 |
| The Wolf's Eyelash | 462-465 |
| Story as Medicine | 466-473 |

Why Animal Suffering Matters

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| Chapters 3-6 | Pages 75-167 |
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Week 16

FINAL EXAM

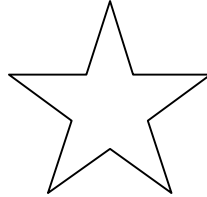
Wednesday 17 December 12:30am – Thursday 18 December 11:00pm

On the Final Exam: All the material from Weeks 11-15
Remember, The Sun My Heart was on the Third Exam.

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, and films, depending on the class syllabus.



Reminder: An online class demands even more self-motivation and discipline than a face-to-face class. For example, there is no professor standing in person reminding students about an exam; students have to remind themselves of the details of the class conveyed through the syllabus and SacCT. Because many of us are frequently online, there may be an automatic reflex to peruse written instructions. Therefore, be mindful, the online class is different from browsing the net. Enjoy your studies, and be aware of the fact that student success is determined online primarily by student commitment and circumspection.

There are four 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 contains 30-35 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.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

Students are required to take exams in a University Computer Lab <http://www.csus.edu/irt/Labs/locations.html> insuring assistance with any technology issues. If a student does not take the exams in a University Computer Lab, he/she takes full responsibility to resolve any technical issues on their own. Keep in mind that this means the student is

responsible for following instructions and a reliable internet connection. If a student's connection fails, there is no second chance to take the exam. To repeat, please take the exams on campus to insure you do not receive a zero on an exam.

Do not contact the professor concerning any technological problems - please contact the Service Desk (ARC 2005) at servicedesk@csus.edu or 278-7337.

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; if an exam is not taken, the student is automatically assigned an F grade. **Therefore, make sure the exact dates and times of exams are duly noted.**

There is no extra credit.

At no time is it appropriate to ask the professor to increase a grade in order to accommodate an individual desire for a higher GPA without matching grade performance.

A student may drop themselves from the class during the official student drop period. After the official drop period ends, any drops, withdrawals, or incompletes, will only be considered for faculty signature, if there is documented evidence of an unforeseen emergency, death, or surgery. Invalid reasons include: Not being able to keep up with the reading, receiving a poor grade on an exam(s), work schedule, moving to an apartment, or going on vacation.

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 152, HRS 155, and HRS 183**, each exam is 1/4 of the grade.