

HRS 155: SPIRIT AND NATURE Spring 2010

Dr. Maria Jaoudi

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Office Hours: T 12:00-1:30pm, MW 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

Roger Gottlieb. This Sacred Earth: Religion, Nature, Environment 2nd Edition

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

Gai-fu Feng and Jane English. Tao Te Ching

Ursula Goodenough. The Sacred Depths of Nature

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

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 <i>Haibun</i>
William Hazlitt	“On the lure of the Country”
Henry David Thoreau	from “Walking”
Ralph Waldo Emerson	“Nature”
John Muir	from <i>Thousand–Mile Walk to the Gulf</i>
Aldo Leopold	from <i>A Sand Country Almanac</i>
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 <i>Forests: The Shadow of Civilization</i>
Lao Tzu	from the <i>Tao Te Ching</i>
Hebrew Bible	Selections
<i>Qur’an</i>	Selections
Daniel Swartz	Jews, Jewish Texts, and Nature
Louis Ginzberg	from <i>Legends of the Bible</i>
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

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

Running with the Wolves

The Retrieval of Intuition

Pages 70-110

Week 4

This Sacred Earth: Ecotheology in an Age of Environmental Crisis

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

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

Pages 127-163

Belonging as Blessing

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 <i>The Others: How Animals Made us Human</i> "

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	<i>Bal Tashchit</i>
Black Elk	The Sun Dance
National Council of	

Churches	Worship Resources, Earth Day Sunday
John Seed	Invocation
Joanna Macy	Gaia Meditations
John Seed	Evolutionary Remembering
Marina Lachecki	The Blessing of Water

This Sacred Earth: Ecology, Religion, and Society

Roger S. Gottlieb	Religion and Politics in the Environmental Movement
Mark I. Wallace	Sustainable Spirituality

Running with the Wolves

Clear Water: Nourishing the Creative Life Pages 267-333

Week 12

This Sacred Earth: Ecology, Religion, and Society Continued

Sarah M. Taylor	Biogeography of Religious Landscape
Catherine Ingram	Interview with Cesar Chavez
Seth Zuckerman	Redwood Rabbis
Evelyn Martin	Of Telescopes, Squirrels, and Prayers: The Mt. Graham Controversy
Bruce Byers	Mhondoro: Spirit Lions and Sacred Forests
E. Conradie	Seeking Eco-Justice in the South African Context

Running with the Wolves

Heat: Retrieving a Sacred Sexuality	Pages 334-345
The Boundaries of Rage and Forgiveness	346-373

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

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 20% of the grade. Exams comprise 60% of the final grade and the research paper and class participation 20% each. In **HRS 152, HRS 155, and HRS 183**, each exam is 1/3 of the grade.