UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE
FALL 2021: SEPTEMBER 7 – DECEMBER 9, 2021

Course  ARTS 503: Capstone
Time  Wednesday 11:00 – 14:00
Instructor  Dr. Tinu Ruparell
Office  SS 530
Office Hours  Wed 10:00-11:00 or by appointment
E-mail  ruparell@ucalgary.ca;
(please note, emails will be dealt with during business hours only and must occur through your @ucalgary email)
Telephone  403 220 7069

Required Text(s)

Selections from this text will be made available on D2L and Perusal

Optional Text(s)
Further readings may be required and will be made available at student expense or through the D2L/Perusal site for the course – a site link will be made available in the first week of the course.

Course Description
This is a seminar focused on completing and presenting individual research projects that integrate the primary and secondary focus within each student’s multidisciplinary degree program. In addition to this, the course this year aims to provide students with opportunity to critically reflect on the nature of the knowledge and skills they have begun to accrue through their programs. We will consider these questions through Foucault’s analysis of knowledge production and validation in his text, *The Order of Things*, as well as other papers we may read together. As a capstone course, students will have the opportunity to devise, research and present their projects in conversation with the themes, questions and discourses we will examine.

Online elements for this course:
This course will take place online via D2L, Zoom, and Perusal (see below). To best succeed in the course, students are encouraged to participate in the asynchronous learning tasks using the D2L learning environment and synchronous Zoom sessions. When unable to participate live due to the time difference or unforeseen circumstances, inform the instructor in advance and propose and implement propose an alternative participation activity (e.g., watch the recordings, submit a brief reflection, and actively contribute to the follow-up online discussion).

You will need to use Perusal – a free online tool for readings/discussion/questions – please register here [www.perusal.com](http://www.perusal.com).
NB: You are expected to attend all synchronous Zoom sessions (see syllabus for times and dates). Individual meetings will be arranged at mutually agreeable times.

Core Competencies
Dedicated students in this course will engage contemporary discussions, critiques and theories concerning the nature of knowledge production and its place within institutions such as universities. Some awareness of the critical discourses in your primary and secondary fields will be assumed, thus students will build on these theories to consider how they have been further developed and interrogated. Students will be given opportunities for discussion, reflection and critique of the creation, conservation, valuation and dissemination of knowledge, and the role of the university in these phenomena. Committed students will gain in their abilities of analysis, verbal and written communication and critical self-reflection in the context of the study of religion.

Course Requirements
There will be three components to the grade for this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Mid-term paper (2500 words)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 3</td>
<td>Research proposal and annotated bibliography</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 24</td>
<td>Final Research Project (40) + ‘oral defense’ (10) Dates of oral defense TBA, between Dec 3-8</td>
<td>50%</td>
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There is NO registrar scheduled exam for this course

Note on oral Defense:
The oral examination is meant to be an opportunity for the student to discuss further and thereby strengthen their research project. It is a way by which feedback on the project can become a springboard for further analysis and discussion. Questions will be based on the student’s submitted work, though, of course, some understanding of the authors and issues covered in class and through the assigned readings will be assumed. The aim of the oral is for students to support the essay and verbal performance in the oral will not be assessed.

Syllabus
A complete syllabus will be made available shortly before the first week of class.
Grading
A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100 - 96</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 - 90</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89 - 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>84 - 80</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>79 - 75</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>74 - 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>69 - 65</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>64 - 60</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>59 - 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>54 - 53</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>52-50</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Under 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments

Assessment dates are firm. Without acceptable documentation or without PRIOR arrangement with the instructor, missed assessments will be awarded an ‘F’. If you miss an assessment by no fault of your own, you must contact me in writing by email within 24 hours of the missed assessment to negotiate an alternative. The instructor retains the right to reject inequitable proposed alternatives, though every effort will be made to find a suitable option. Failure to follow these directions and/or meet these deadlines will result in an ‘F’ for that assessment. All assessments must be completed for a passing grade for the course.

This policy is intended to encourage diligence and integrity among students as well as to uphold principles of fairness and equality with respect to other students in the class.

You are expected to be in attendance and participate in all seminars. Failure to attend and participate in all seminars will result in reductions in your project grades, at the discretion of the instructor.

LATE SUBMISSION OF FINAL PAPERS WILL BE PENALISED 5%/DAY. Missing the oral examination without acceptable cause (as above) will result in a 15% penalty on the essay as well as an F on the oral exam component.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Please submit all assignments electronically using the dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Assignments should have a file name as follows: “First Name Last Name Assignment Number” (e.g., Alex Smith Assignment 2). Assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm on their due date. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered
in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Policy
While we will be using internet resources heavily during this course, recent studies have clearly shown that use of laptops, phones and other electronic tools for notes and in-class work results in poorer learning outcomes and consequently worse grades. (Mueller, Psychological Studies Online First May 22, 2014) During Zoom sessions I strongly suggest that you do not use a laptop or computer for notes. Note taking using a pen and paper has been shown to aid learning and recall. (Carter, Greenberg, and Walker “SEII Discussion Paper” #2016.02)

References and Bibliography
We will use the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and require references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html. Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor.
These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites or discord sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY
Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students’ assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student’s academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf
Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.
Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.
SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY
The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary’s sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Please visit the Registrar’s website at: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students’ Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk