

(REVISED AS OF Sept. 13)

RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGR 6432

GABRIEL MORAN

FALL 2007

Course Purpose:

Understanding the nature of religious education in a religiously plural world. Education in the Roman Catholic church in the context of Protestant Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Eastern religions. Tolerance and possible obstacles to peaceful cooperation.

Course Sequence:

August 30: Introduction: Religion and Education

Sept. 6: Religious Diversity

JH: Miles; ID, chap 1,2

Sept. 13: Traditions and Religious Traditions

Moran, Tradition; Pelikan, Vindication of Tradition

Sept 20: The Logic of Religion

ID, ch. 15, Moran, Logic of Religion (pp. 1-9)

Sept. 27: Uniqueness and Universality

Dupuis; Knitter, Moran, Logic (pp. 14-24)

Oct. 4: Religious Education: Intra and Inter

JH:Phan, John of Taize; Moran, Understanding

Oct. 11: Religion and U.S. state schools

Moran, Religious Education: A Civic Problem; Boyer

Oct. 18: Religious Education in the U.S.

Moran, Still To Come; Seymour, Mapping

Oct. 25: Religious Education in British and Recent European History

ID, chap. 9; Moran, British Experience

Nov. 1: Christianity and Its Jewish Origins

JH: Matalon; ID, chap 18

Nov. 8: Christian and Jewish Encounter

JH: Schwabel; Greenberg

Nov. 15: Islam as Third Sibling in Conversation

JH: Bagby; ID, chap 10; Shakir

Nov. 29: Buddhism, Hinduism and Eastern Mysticism

ID, ch. 16; Cobb

Dec. 6: Tolerance and the Obstacles to Cooperation

JH, Osman; Moran, Whose Tolerance?

Dec. 13: Exam

### Course Reading:

James Heft, ed., Passing on the Faith: Transforming Traditions for the Next Generation of Jews, Christians and Muslims. New York: Fordham University Press, 2006. (JH)

Michael Fitzgerald and John Borelli, eds., Interfaith Dialogue: A Catholic View. New York: Orbis Books, 2006. (ID)

All other readings are to be found at [www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran](http://www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran)

### Course Writing:

1. At the beginning of each class meeting there will be a brief written exercise. Pick up the previous day's writing at the beginning of class along with that day's question. I will write comments but not grade each day's work. File the returned papers; they will be useful for the final exam.

2. Term Paper: Choose a topic within the framework of this course. Find a topic that is narrow enough that you can write a paper of 10-15 pages. Examples: Catholic-Jewish dialogue in the United States since 1945; Buddhist contemplation and Catholicism; What Christians can learn from Muslims; Salvation of non-Christians in Catholic church teaching; Jesus in contemporary Jewish perspectives.

Thursday, Sept. 27: Title of paper and two bibliographical references

Thursday, Oct. 25: First draft of paper is due

Thursday, Nov. 29: Final draft is due

### Course Procedure:

I am available to discuss the paper or any other matters about the course. My best time for meetings is in Keating 303 before or after class. Other times can be arranged. I encourage you to use e-mail ([gmoran@fordham.edu](mailto:gmoran@fordham.edu)) for any questions or any suggestions for the course. I will answer e-mail on the day it is received.

The course is built around the reading assignments. It is important to have read the material for each class as they will be the basis of discussion. I will try to vary the format. Suggestions are welcome.

The exam period is Thursday, Dec. 13. There will be some form of exam, the nature of which is open to discussion.

The final grade is based on the final exam and the written paper with adjustments possible from oral contributions.