

Course Calendar 2015: The dates for all assignments follow. Remember, the syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

Week 1

- Jan 12 Reading the Bible As If For The First Time, Or Why Knowledge of Biblical Texts Is BOTH Helpful and Dangerous (what most folks call the review of the Syllabus)
- Jan 14 History, Religious Studies, and the Bible
Reading: Anne Hutchinson (AH) pp. 18-33 (“Historical Background”)
Genesis, ch 1-3; Matthew 5

Week 2

Colonial Religious Life

- Jan 19 **No Class**
- Jan 21 More than Puritans: Religious Impulses with and without the Bible
Readings: Great Awakening (GA) Introduction

Week 3

- Jan 26 Awakenings: The Ebb and Flow of Religious Revival
Reading: GA pp. 31-88
- Jan 28 Defining Denominations in Colonial Life
Reading: GA pp. 89-140

Week 4

Bible: Slavery and Antebellum U.S.

- Feb 2 Free Nation and Religious Arguments for Human Bondage
Reading: Defending Slavery (DS) Introduction
Writing: **Assignment #1 Due**
- Feb 4 Slavery’s Logic
Reading: DS pp. 47-88

Week 5

- Feb 9 Christian Defenses of Slavery
Reading: DS pp. 96-128

Feb 11 Slave Religion: Life through a Veil
Reading: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (FD), Introduction

Week 6

Feb 16 Slave Adaptations of the White Man's Faith
Reading: FD pp. 41-79 (stop at the end of Chapter IX)

Feb 18 Corrective Lens concerning Slavery
Readings: FD pp. 79-125 (Appendix will help set the stage for discussion)

Twentieth Century Conflicts

Week 7

Feb 23 The Christian Century and the Rise of Science
Readings: Scopes Trial (ST), Introduction
Writing: **Assignment #2 Due**

Feb 25 Rise of Fundamentalism in Response to Scientific Method
Readings: ST pp. 73-138

Week 8

Mar 2 Monkeys and Men, Or Why This is Not the Point
Readings: ST pp. 139-203

Mar 4 A Time Like No Other, or What Frederick Douglass Can Teach Us
About Consensus (hint listen to the marginal voices)
Readings: FD pp.146-171

Week 9

Mar 10-12 **SPRING BREAK**

Week 10

Mar 16 Are Majorities Ever Moral?
Readings: Jerry Falwell and the Rise of the Religious Right (JF), Introduction
Writing: **Assignment #3 Due**

Mar 18 The Slave's Religion Threatens a Single Narrative
Readings: JF pp. 31-68

Week 11

Mar 23 Response to Cultural Displacement (Prelude to Culture Wars)
Readings: JF pp. 69-118

Mar 25 House Divided, or We Have Always Been This Way

Readings: JF pp.119-143

Week 12

Mar 30 Anne Hutchinson (AH): Introduction and Election of John Winthrop

Apr 1 (AH): Discussion of Puritanism; Distribution of Roles

Week 13

Apr 6 (AH): Factions Meeting

Apr 8 (AH): Game Session #1

Week 14

Apr 13 (AH): Game Session #2

Apr 15 (AH): Game Session #3

Week 15

Apr 20 (AH): Game Session #4

Apr 24 (AH): Game Session #5

Week 16

Apr 27 (AH): Game Session #6

Apr 29 (AH): Post Mortem Discussion

Week 17

May 8 Final Essay Due (7-10pm)