

**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)**