

INTERRELIGIOUS THEORY

Prof. Barbara Meyer

Fall Semester

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-3p.m.

Short description:

During the second half of the twentieth century, Christian theologians tried to correct their conceptions of Judaism. As a result, Christian self-understanding changed completely.

In this class we will trace these conceptual changes as well as examine more contemporary thinkers who follow in its wake: for example, the Talmud scholar Daniel Boyarin who attributes the principle of difference to Judaism, while the philosopher Peter Ochs emphasizes that Judaism and Christianity refer to the same God. What happens when Islam enters the conversation? Avraham Elkayam reminds us of Jewish philosophers who wrote in Arabic and called the God of Israel "Allah".

We will look at contemporary dialogues between Jews, Christians and Muslims while asking whether it is now possible to refer to a new tradition of "interreligious thinking."

Assessment*:

Midterm:

Outline – 10%

Final requirement:

Final paper – 80%

Participation:

10% of the grade

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic conduct:

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an

* Please note that if distance learning is required, the assessment procedure, modes of assessment and weightings may be changed.

exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

Additional requirements:

Please turn off all electronic apparatuses.