COURSE SYLLABUS
JERUSALEM: CITY OF THREE FAITHS
THEO-275

PLACE: St. Louis University, Madrid Campus
TIME: Spring 2015, TR 11:00-12:15
CURRICULUM: 3 credits.
INSTRUCTORS: Dr. Carolina A. Aznar (caznarsa@slu.edu) and Dr. Paloma P. Villarreal (pvillarr@slu.edu)—when e-mailing please write: “City of Jerusalem” as subject title
OFFICE HOURS: TR 14:00-16:00 in Dr. Aznar’s office at Loyola Hall, second floor

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of the history of Jerusalem in relation to the three Abrahamic faiths, focusing on its religious and symbolic value through history and today.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester students will know the basic facts of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faith traditions and their relations through time; the history of Jerusalem and its importance for these traditions up to the present; the role of Jerusalem in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and the value of Jerusalem as a symbol for the three faiths. In addition, they will be familiar with the social justice traditions of the three religious traditions and they will have developed their own ideas on how to bridge ethnic and religious divides to coexist peacefully.

SKILL ACQUISITIONS

By the end of the semester students will be able to do a critical reading and evaluation of the many different arguments related to the city Jerusalem, with an attempt to separate facts from emotions. They will have worked on the skills to listen to others and communicate one’s ideas effectively. They will have developed enough understanding and appreciation of each of the three faiths as to identify and criticize historical prejudice and popular media stereotypes. They will understand the importance of protecting all cultural heritages and of detecting and criticizing the manipulation of archaeological evidence for ideological goals. Also, they will have become aware of the richness and challenges of working together with class members from different cultural backgrounds by discussing ideas in class and by working together on a group visit to Toledo.

REQUIRED BOOKS

- The Bible (for study purposes I recommend The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha, but any translation is fine)
- The Qur’an (any translation)
EVALUATION PROCEDURES

The final grade will be based on the following percentages:

- Class participation: 10%
- First assignment: 20%
- Mid-term exam: 30%
- Second assignment: 10%
- Final exam: 30%

1. **Class participation** is a part of the final grade. It includes doing the assigned readings, being able to present and discuss them, answering the questions posed by the professor in class, and asking and discussing content-related questions when appropriate. Students are expected to do the assigned readings for any given day *in preparation for* (that is, before) the class of that day so they can discuss them in class.

2. Students will write a **nine to ten-page assignment** based on Lowney’s book and on a (compulsory) group visit to houses of prayer of the three religions in the city of Toledo (tentatively scheduled for February 13). Instructions for the assignment will be provided in class. The assignment will be due on Feb. 19.


4. Students will write a **six-page assignment** on three artistic renderings of the city of Jerusalem by one believer from each of the three faiths. Instructions for the assignment will be provided in class. The assignment will be due at the beginning of class on April 16.

5. Students will take a **final exam** on May 11.

6. Each student will **visit with the instructor** in her office at some point during the office hours of Jan. 29-31.

7. All students will **complete the on-line course evaluation** at the end of the semester.

All written assignments must be submitted double-spaced, page-numbered, typed and printed. They must be submitted in class. E-mail submission of assignments is not acceptable and does not count towards the grade (i.e. an e-mailed assignment counts as not submitted) unless the instructor sends the student an e-mail explicitly saying he/she can e-mail his/her assignment. In the assignments, bibliography and attachments will be placed at the end and will not count towards the page account. Cover pages are not needed.

All due assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the class on the due date. Submitting an assignment at the end of the class of the due date will count as submitting it late and therefore will be penalized as such. If for any reason a student could not submit his/her assignment on time or make it to the final exam, he/she should contact the instructor BEFORE the due date to discuss what his/her options are (the only exception to this are justified medical emergencies).

All students in this class have a slu e-mail account (i.e. an e-mail address ending in slu.edu)— both their Banner and SLU-Global accounts are linked to it. Therefore, all e-mail communications between the instructor and the students will be take place by using the slu email system. It is each student’s responsibility to get to know his/her slu e-mail address, to check it works on the first day of class (R Jan. 15), to check it regularly (or to have the mail from this address forwarded to a preferred account which is checked regularly), and to speak with the people at the Registrar’s Office (in Padre Arrupe Hall) if there is any problem with it.

For bibliography for the assignments, please make sure you check the SLU book catalogue (at [http://spain.slu.edu/academics/library/index.html](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/library/index.html)) as well as the ATLA, JSTOR and
WorldCat (FirstSearch) databases (at http://libraries.slu.edu/databases/databases.php#dbname). To use the latter, you will need your SLU-Madrid login and password. If you do not know or have them yet, go to the Registrar’s Office at Padre Arrupe Hall and ask for them there.

Keep in mind that many of the articles and books found in the ATLA and WorldCat (FirstSearch) Database may be retrieved in Madrid at the libraries of the Universidad Complutense, Universidad Autónoma, Universidad Pontificia de Comillas, Instituto Arqueológico Alemán, and/or the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas. But for saving time, look for bibliographic resources on the internet first.

You can also find useful articles at Bible Review and Biblical Archaeology Review (http://www.basarchive.org). These are not scholarly journals but popular magazines. However, the authors who write in them are scholars and many of the articles are summarized versions of similar, more detailed articles in scholarly journals. So you can use their articles, especially if you do not have access to the scholarly journal where the original version is published.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PENALTIES

Repeated unjustified absences will decrease the final grade—one full letter of the participation grade will be decreased for each three unjustified absences (e.g. from B to C).

Being late and/or lacking knowledge of the assigned readings for any given day will also decrease the final grade since it will prevent the student from participating in class—one third of the participation grade letter will be decreased for each two days in which any of these situations takes place (e.g. from B- to C+).

Not visiting with the instructor on Jan. 27-29 will decrease the participation grade—one full letter of the grade will be decreased.

Missing the group visit to Toledo on Feb. 13 will decrease the first assignment grade—one full letter of the assignment will be decreased.

Submitting an assignment late will decrease its grade—one third of the due assignment letter for each day of delay in submitting it. After a week, no late submissions will be accepted and the assignment will be graded as 0 (=F).

Submitting an assignment in the middle of or at the end of the class when it is due will count as submitting it late and therefore will be penalized as such—one third of the assignment letter will be decreased.

The class requires each student’s full attention. Because of it, music listening, mobile phone text messaging, unauthorized web surfing, e-mail checking, and online chatting during class time will be penalized—one third of the participation grade will be decreased every time a student is seen doing any of these.

Students who missed the introduction on the first day of class (Jan. 15) must stay after class on R Jan. 29 for fifteen minutes. Not doing so will decrease the class participation grade—one third of the participation grade will be decreased.
GRADING SCALE

The grading scale is as follows:

93-100 = A - Excellent understanding of subject matter and mastery of the skills of the course
90-92 = A-
87-89 = B+
83-86 = B - Good understanding of the subject matter and deployment of the skills of the course
80-82 = B-
76-79 = C+
71-75 = C - Minimally satisfactory understanding of the subject matter and deployment of the skills of the course
68-70 = C-
60-67 = D - Less than satisfactory understanding of the subject matter or less than satisfactory deployment of the skills of the course
0-59 = F - Basic failure in understanding of the subject matter or basic inability to deploy the skills of the course

The following are general principles concerning grading standards and criteria at SLU:

**A range** = Superior, exceptional, outstanding with evidence of critical, informed, and creative inquiry that deepens their understanding of essential concepts. This means the student demonstrates depth of insight beyond what is normally expected. Carefully nuanced reasoning and writing, free from material, structural and grammatical error are presupposed in this grade.

**B range** = Good, ready command of full range of concepts and shows some critical, informed, and creative inquiry that deepens their understanding of essential concepts. This means the student has produced an assignment that is free from material, structural and grammatical errors.

**C range** = Acceptable, satisfactory ability to describe overall picture and essential concepts. This means the student has completed the assignment in a manner involving no significant errors. Material may not be free from structural and grammatical errors. Nuanced reasoning is not demonstrated.

**D range** = Below normal expectation. Reasoning is neither carefully nuanced nor coherently presented; writing is insufficient in depth of insight and/or use of texts; presentation is not free from material error in structure, spelling and grammar. This means that the student failed to respond adequately to the assignment and its intentions.

**F** = Unsatisfactory. The student failed to respond to the assignment: 1) failed to turn in the assignment; 2) did not respond to the assignment as given; 3) submitted work so thoroughly flawed as to indicate that the student did not make a serious effort, 4) plagiarism or cheating involved.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, we regularly assess our teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose we keep on file anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs such as: assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. Thus, copies of your work for this course, including exams, oral presentations and submitted papers may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment
and accreditation purposes. If you prefer that Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus does not keep your work on file, you will need to communicate your decision in writing to your professor.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html.

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 204, send an e-mail to counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu, or to visit the Counseling Office (San Ignacio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter. **If you need special accommodations, please get in contact with Disability Services and let the instructor know during the first week of class and (again) one week before the exam so the instructor can plan accordingly.**

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY AT SLU

Please note that, as a student in this course, you are required to adhere to the university's Academic Honesty Policy. Cheating, falsification, and plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Plagiarism is the intentional representation of someone else’s thoughts or words as if they were one’s own. Any violation of this policy will result in an F for the pertinent academic exercise. A detailed statement of the policy may be found at http://spain.slu.edu/academics/policies_&_procedures/docs/Academic_integrity.pdf

**Definitions**

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the kinds of misconduct listed below. Such dishonesty may involve written or spoken communications or those conveyed in electronic form.

**A. Cheating**

Cheating involves the use of unauthorized or unethical assistance to gain an unfair advantage over other students. Instances include the following:

1. Use of unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes or examinations;
2. Use of resources beyond those authorized by the instructor in solving problems or in carrying out other assignments such as writing papers, preparing reports, or giving oral presentations;
3. Acquisition, dissemination, or use of tests or other academic materials belonging to an instructor or a member of the staff without prior approval;
4. Hiring or otherwise engaging someone to impersonate a student in taking a quiz or examination or in fulfilling other academic requirements.
B. Falsification
Falsification involves misrepresentations of fact for academic gain. Instances include the following:
1. Lying to or deceiving an instructor;
2. Fabrication or misrepresentation of the documentation or the data involved in carrying out assignments;
3. Fabrication, misrepresentation, or unauthorized alteration of information in academic records belonging to an instructor or to any academic division or administrative unit within the Madrid Campus.

C. Plagiarism
Plagiarism involves the intentional representation of someone else's thoughts or words as if they were one's own. Instances include the following:
1. Quoting directly from someone else's work without using quotation marks and without giving proper credit to the author;
2. Paraphrasing someone else's ideas, concepts, arguments, observations, or statements without giving proper credit;
3. Submitting as one's own work a paper or other assignment that has been prepared, either wholly or in large part, by another person, group, or commercial firm.

D. Sabotage
Sabotage involves interference with the academic work of another member of the university community or modification, theft, or destruction of intellectual property such as computer files, library materials, or personal books or papers.

E. Collusion
Collusion involves collaboration with another person or persons for the purpose of engaging in, aiding, or abetting acts of academic dishonesty as defined above. (...
COURSE OUTLINE

1. INTRODUCTION

1. Presentation. Abraham/Ibrahim, our Father
2. Jerusalem as a holy site, the power of symbols

2. THE THREE MONOTHEISTIC RELIGIONS AND THEIR ATTACHMENT TO THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

3. Judaism I
4. Judaism II
5. Judaism III
6. Judaism IV/Christianity I
7. Christianity II
8. Christianity III
9. Christianity IV/Islam I
10. Islam II
11. Islam III
12. Islam IV
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13. Exam

3. THE HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

14. The Canaanites. The United Israelite Monarchy: King David and King Solomon.
15. The Divided Israelite Monarchy. The End of the Monarchy. The Exile and the Return from the Exile
16. The ‘Second Temple’ Period. The time of Jesus I
17. The time of Jesus II
18. The revolt of the Jews against the Romans and the destruction of the Second Temple. Emperor Hadrian.
20. The beginning of Islam. Caliph Umar enters the city. The early Muslim Period
21. Muslims and Christians during the time of the Crusades
22. The later Muslim Period. The Ottoman Rule
23. From the end of the Ottoman Rule (1918) to the Six-Day War (1967): the British Mandate, the Partition, the 1948 War and its aftermath
24. From the Six-Day War to year 2000
25. From year 2000 to the present

4. THE CITY OF JERUSALEM AND THE FUTURE

27. Jerusalem and the end of times
28. Presentation of art assignments
29. Religion, hatred, and peacemaking. Synthesis

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30. Final Exam
COURSE GENERAL SCHEDULE*

Week 1:   - R Jan. 15

Week 2:   - T Jan. 20
- R Jan. 22

Week 3:   - T-R Jan. 27-29: Every student must speak with the instructor during office hours
- T Jan. 27: Last day to Add/Drop (without “W”). Last day to Audit (AU) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) status
- R Jan. 29

Week 4:   - T Feb. 3
- R Feb. 5

Week 5:   - T Feb. 10
- R Feb. 12
- F Feb. 13: Visit to houses of prayer in the city of Toledo

Week 6:   - T Feb. 17
- W Feb. 18: Registration begins for Summer sessions
- R Feb. 19: First assignment due

Week 7:   - T Feb. 24
- R Feb. 26: Exam

Week 8:   - T March 3
- R March 5

Week 9:   - T March 10
- R March 12
- F March 13: Last day to Drop with “W”

Week 10:  - T March 17
- R March 19: No class (San José Holiday)

Week 11:  - T March 24
- R March 26

Week 12:  - T March 31: No class (Semana Santa)
- R April 2: No class (Jueves Santo Holiday)

Week 13:  - T April 7
- W April 8: Registration begins for Fall Semester
- R April 9

Week 14:  - T April 14
- R April 16: Second assignment due

Week 15:  - T April 21
- R April 23

Week 16:  - T April 28
- R April 30

Week 17:  - T May 5

Week 18:  - R May 11: Final Exam (starts at 12:00 pm)
* The dates in this general schedule will be matched to the topics in the course topic list according to the instructor’s indications