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Subject and Course Number

N. Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):
A text or reader, as selected by the Anthropology discipline, such as:

Lehmann, Arthur C. and Myers, James. E. <u>Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion: an anthropological study of the supernatural</u>. Mayfield Publishing Company, Palo Alto, 1985.

Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings: O. Course Objectives; P. Course Content;

Q. Method of Instruction; R. Course Evaluation

C. Course Objectives:

The student will gain:

- An understanding of how a social scientific approach to religion can be justified, and how this differs from that of the philosopher, theologian, etc.
- An informed understanding of the relations of religion to science and technology, and history, in societies lacking a literate tradition.
- A broad familiarity with a number of classic ethnographies in this sub-field, and with the range of beliefs and practices found currently outside world religions.
- A general appreciation of the social and personal function of religions, and of how religions may be conservative or radical forces in social life.
- The student should come to appreciate the particularity of the Judeo-Christian-Islamic tradition, and of societies with large numbers of atheists/agnostics.

P. Course Content:

- A social scientific approach to religion Questions of the definition of religion and cognate beliefs and practices.
- 2. Religion, science and history their relations in technically advanced and in non-literate societies.
- 3. The anatomy of religion:
 - a) the sacred and the profane: beliefs and rituals
 - b) mythology and cosmology
 - c) symbolism in myth and ritual
 - d) rituals, taboos and prohibitions
 - e) religious specialists and practitioners
 - f) religion and medicine, religion and drug use
 - g) the otiose god, spirits, ghosts, ancestors
 - h) totemism and animism
 - i) differentiating magic and religion
 - j) witchcraft, sorcery, and divination

Subject and Course Number

- P. Course Content cont'd.
- 4. The social organization of various types of religious experience. The social and personal function of religion.
- 5. Religion and political and social change syncretism and millenarianism.

Q. Method of Instruction:

This course will be presented mainly by way of lectures, with class discussion of selected ethnographic material. This may be supplemented by films, slides, or videos.

R. Course Evaluation:

Evaluation will be based on course ojbectives, and will be in keeping with current College policy, and may include a combination of the following:

- 1. a series of examinations up to 30% each.
- 2. an individual/group assignment, paper or presentation up to 30 % each.
- 3. a shorter take-home examination or open-book test up to 20% each.

CODIS2#14

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