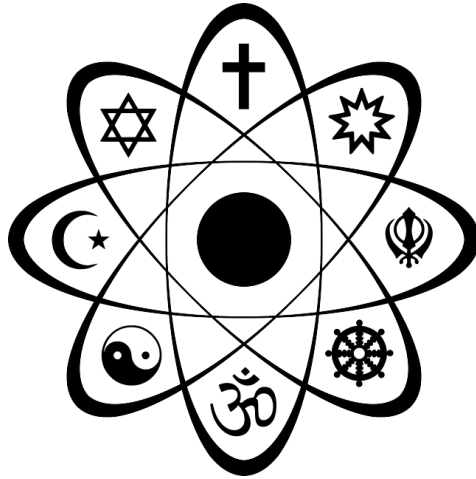


HH3032 Science and Religion in History



Instructor: Assoc Prof Park Hyung Wook (hwpark@ntu.edu.sg)

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Office Hours: Wednesday 16:30-18:30

Seminar Times: Friday 15:30-18:30 / Venue: TR+93

Many people have believed that science and religion are contraries. Science is often considered the paradigm of humans' rational thoughts that fight against all kinds of ignorance, bigotry, and superstition, which may include religious thoughts and practices. However, many historians of science after the late twentieth century have found that the relationship between science and religion is far more complex. In some cases, religions do hamper and suppress some scientists' claims and activities, but religions can also be a positive factor in the construction of scientific ideas and worldviews, including those for the rise of modern science. This course aims at your deeper understanding of this complexity in a historical depth.

Assessment:

Midterm Paper (35%) [Due by 7 March]

Final Paper (35%) [Due by 25 April]

Pre-Class Questions (10%)

Group Discussion Reports (10%)

Participation (10%)

Weekly Readings:

Week 1 Introduction (17 January)

Peter Harrison, *The Territories of Science and Religion* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015), pp. 1-19

Mark Noll and David Livingstone, "Introduction," in *The Warfare between Science and Religion: The Idea that Wouldn't Die*, edited by Jeff Hardin, Ronald Numbers, and Ronald Binzley (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018), pp. 1-5.

Elaine Howard Ecklund, et. al., *Secularity and Science* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019), chapter 9.

Week 2 European Antiquity (24 January)

David Lindberg, *Beginnings of Western Science* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008), pp. 21-45.

Harrison, *Territories of Science and Religion*, pp. 21-54.

Week 3 Medieval Islamic World (31 January)

Lindberg, *Beginnings of Western Science*, pp. 163-192.

Syed Nomanul Haq, "That Medieval Islamic Culture Was Inhospitable to Science," in *Galileo Goes to Jail and Other Myths about Science and Religion*, edited by Ronald Numbers (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2009), pp. 35-42.

A. I. Sabra, "Situating Arabic Science: Locality versus Essence," *Isis* 87 (1996), pp. 654-670.

Week 4 Medieval Europe (7 February)

Lynn White, Jr., "The Historical Root of Our Ecological Crisis," *Science* 155: 3767 (1967), pp. 1203-7.

Peter Harrison, *Territories of Science and Religion*, pp. 55-81, 136-141.

Edward Grant, *The Foundations of Modern Science in the Middle Ages* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), pp. 168-206.

Week 5 Scientific Revolution (14 February)

Peter Dear, "Miracles, Experiments, and the Ordinary Course of Nature," *Isis* 81 (1990), pp. 663-683.

Frances A. Yates, "The Hermetic Tradition in Renaissance Science," in *Art, Science, and History in the Renaissance*, edited by Charles Singleton (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1968), pp. 255-274.

William Ashworth, Jr., "Christianity and the Mechanical Universe," in *When Science & Christianity Meet*, edited by David Lindberg and Ronald Numbers (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003), pp. 61-84.

Week 6 Trial of Galileo (21 February)

David Lindberg, "Galileo, the Church, and the Cosmos," in *When Science & Christianity Meet*, pp. 33-60.

Maurice Finocchiaro, "The Galileo Affair," in *The Warfare between Science and Religion*, pp. 27-45.

Mario Biagioli, *Galileo, Courtier: The Practice of Science in the Culture of Absolutism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993), pp. 313-352.

Week 7 Science, God, and the New Era of the Western World (28 February)

Thomas Broman, "Matter, Force, and the Christian Worldview in the Enlightenment," in *When Science & Christianity Meet*, pp. 85-110.

Noah Efron, "That Christianity Gave Birth to Modern Science," in *Galileo Goes to Jail*, pp. 79-89.

Harrison, *Territories of Science and Religion*, pp. 83-116.

Week 8 Darwinism and Religion (13 March)

David Livingstone, "Re-placing Darwinism and Christianity," in *When Science & Christianity Meet*, pp. 183-202.

Owen Chadwick, *The Victorian Church*, Part II (London: Adam and Charles Black, 1972), pp. 23-35.

G. Clinton Godart, "'Evolutionary Theory is the Superstition of Modernity': Antievolutionary Thought in Wartime Japan." *Almagest*. To be published in August 2020.

Week 9 Scopes Trial (20 March)

Edward Larson, "The Scopes Trial in History and Legend," in *When Science & Christianity Meet*, pp. 245-265.

Adam Shapiro, *Trying Biology: The Scopes Trial, Textbooks, and the Antievolution Movement in American Schools* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), pp. 1-13, 62-156.

Week 10 Creation Science in America (27 March)

Ronald Numbers, *The Creationists: From Scientific Creationism to Intelligent Design* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006), chapters 10 and 12.

Elaine Ecklund and Christopher Scheitle, *Religion vs. Science: What Religious People Really Think* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), pp. 72-92.

Week 11 Creation Science in the World (3 April)

Hyung Wook Park and Kyuhoon Cho, "Science, State, and Spirituality," *History of Science* 56 (2018), pp. 35-71.

Martin Riexinger, "Turkey," *Creationism in Europe*, edited by Stefaan Blancke, Hans Henrik Hjermitsev, and Peter Kjaergaard (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014), pp. 180-198.

C. Mackenzie Brown, "Global Creationism: The Hindu Case." *Almagest*. To be published in August 2020.

Week 12 Genetically Modified Organisms (TBA)

Conrad Brunk and Harold Coward, *Acceptable Genes: Religious Traditions and Genetically Modified Foods* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2009), introduction, chapters 5, 6, 7.

Week 13 Religions and Modern Communication Technologies (17 April)

Steve Bruce, *Pray TV: Televangelism in America* (New York: Routledge, 1990), chapter 2, 6
Daniel Stout, *Media and Religion: Foundations of an Emerging Field* (New York: Routledge, 2012), chapter 1, 5.

Essay Assignments:

You are expected to write your midterm and final papers in accordance with questions prepared by the professor. These questions will be given in 3 weeks ahead of the deadline. You can refer to any sources to answer the questions, but at least 2 readings in the syllabus must be cited.

How to Find Readings:

All readings are available in NTU Learn's course portal. Most books used in the course will also be found in the NTU libraries.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious academic misconduct and may endanger a student's career in a highly severe way. It is done intentionally or unintentionally using another person's ideas and writings without any proper citation and/or quotation marks. Collusion, which may involve a close collaboration in completing an assignment, is another problem. Unless instructed otherwise, your midterm assignment should be done by yourself alone. Paraphrasing is an act of rewriting other people's ideas or arguments using your own words. While this is an acceptable practice in most cases, it can be an issue if you do not indicate that the ideas have come from another person's works. If you are not sure about how you should do regarding these issues, please do cite the referred sources in footnotes/endnotes and use the quotation marks around the terms you did not originally write. Even if you cited the source, your paper can be a problem without the proper use of quotation marks. If any plagiarized sentence or paragraph is detected, the grade will be reduced to zero.