

## **Textbooks:**

The following two texts are required for this course:

Julia Corbett-Hemeyer, *Religion in America*, 7th Edition, 2016. ISBN: 9781138188075.

Ryan P. Burge, *The Nones: Where They Came From, Who They Are, and Where They Are Going*, 2021. ISBN: 978-1506465852.

## **Module 1: Religion as Story**

### **View:**

Video Lecture

### **Write:**

A 3 page paper of your religious autobiography. Where does your religious story begin? Parents? Grandparents? Ancestors? If you don't have a religious story, why? What takes the place of religion? What provides meaning for your life? (Guidelines for papers are found in the Course Syllabus.)

### **Due:**

10/22

### **Points:**

16

## **Module 2: Religion in America**

### **Reading:**

Hemeyer, (Text) Part 1. (Pp. 1-38) and Chapter 13. (Pp. 288-304)

### **Write:**

A 3 page paper on American religion and the current culture wars based upon the text. Include a summary paragraph of the Video Lecture.

### **Note:**

I need to see page numbers from the text. You can use short, pithy quotes from the text followed by the page number in parenthesis or just cite the page numbers from the text at the end of a paragraph also placed in parenthesis. Example: "Direct Quote.....", (10) You do not have to write out the name of the text or author. Also, don't forget to include a large paragraph on the Video Lecture.

### **Due:**

10/29

### **Points:**

16

## **Module 3: Christianity in America**

### **View:**

Videos

**Reading:**

Hemeyer, (Text) Part 2 (Pp. 41--171.) Do not read word for word--only for themes and prompts for your paper.

**Write:**

A 3 page paper on your choice of the following: **Pick one only**

1. What is an Evangelical? Why are they the new majority of American Christians? Text and relevant website: [www.nae.net](http://www.nae.net) ([Links to an external site.](#)) (I need to see page numbers from the text.)
2. How is Catholicism different from Protestant Christianity? Text and relevant website: [www.catholic.net](http://www.catholic.net) ([Links to an external site.](#)) (I need to see page numbers from the text.)
3. What are examples of American Born Christianities? Text. (I need to see page numbers from the text.)

Include two paragraphs that summarizes **both** Videos.

**Note:**

I need to see page numbers from the text. You can use short, pithy quotes from the text followed by the page number in parenthesis or just cite the page numbers from the text at the end of a paragraph also placed in parenthesis. "Direct Quote.....", (10) You do not have to write out the name of the text or

author. Also, include two paragraphs on the Video Lectures.

**Due:**

11/05

**Points:**

16

**Module 4: World Religions in America**

**View:**

“America’s New Religious Landscape”

**Read:**

Hemeyer, (Text) Chapters: 8,9,11.

**Write:**

A 3 page paper on your choice of the following: **Pick one**

1. What are the differences between the three basic divisions (denominations) of American Jews? (I need to see page numbers from the text.) Text and relevant website: [www.jewfaq.org](http://www.jewfaq.org) (Links to an external site.)
2. What are the Five Pillars of Islam? (I need to see page numbers from the text. ) Text and relevant website: [www.muslimamericansociety.org](http://www.muslimamericansociety.org) (Links to an external site.)

3. How did The Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965, also known as the Hart-Celler Act, change the American religious landscape? (I need to see page numbers from the text. Also, include Text and Module Summaries.

Include one paragraph that summarizes the Video.

**Note:**

I need to see page numbers from either book. You can use short, pithy quotes from the text followed by the page number in parenthesis or just cite the page numbers from the text at the end of a paragraph also placed in parenthesis. Also, include a large paragraph on the Video Lecture.

**Due:**

11/12

**Points:**

16

**Module 5 : Humanism & NRM's**

**View:**

Video Lecture

**Read:**

Hemeyer (Text) Chapters: 10 & 12

**Write:**

A 3 page paper on your choice of the following: Pick one:

1. The re-emergence of Native American Spirituality, Text. (I need to see page numbers from the text.)
2. What is humanism? Text. (I need to see page numbers from the text.)
3. What are the differences between the Universalists and the Unitarians? Text. (I need to see page numbers from the text.)

Include one paragraph that summarizes the Video Lecture.

**Note:**

I need to see page numbers from either book. You can use short, pithy quotes from the text followed by the page number in parenthesis or just cite the page numbers from the text at the end of a paragraph also placed in parenthesis. Also, include a large paragraph on the Video Lecture.

**Due:**

11/19

**Points:**

16

## **Module 6: Final Paper**

### **Read:**

Ryan P. Burge, *The Nones*

### **Write:**

A 4 page book review. The class has been structured to give you extra time for crafting a well researched and polished paper based upon a very small book.

Please cover the following in your review:

1. Who is Ryan Burke and why he is qualified to write this book?
2. Who are the 'Seven Sisters' of historic Mainline Protestants and what happened to them?
3. According to the author, what are the 'Seven Religious Traditions' of the US today?
4. In your opinion, will America become secularized like Europe? Use data from the book to argue your position.

### **Note:**

I need to see page numbers from the book. You can use short, pithy quotes from the text followed by the page number in parenthesis or just cite the page numbers from the text at the end of a paragraph also placed in parenthesis.

### **Due:**

12/10

**Points:**

20 (21) (A bonus point is possible for papers that greatly exceed expectations.)