

ANTH& 234: Religion and Culture

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION: MW, 12:30 pm – 2:40 pm, Room D103

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephanie Brommer

Office:	D200D
Office Hours:	10:30am-12:30pm Mondays; 10:30-11:30am Wednesdays
Email:	stephanie.brommer@bellevuecollege.edu

Welcome to ANTH& 234! Anthropologists have long studied, interpreted, explained, and explored religion, beliefs in the supernatural, and religious and spiritual diversity by looking at symbols, rituals, myths, belief systems, and practices around the world. This course focuses on giving you an understanding of the anthropological perspective on religion and the supernatural and how belief systems impact culture, identity, and worldview. The topics of religion and the supernatural are deeply personal and also relevant in global conversation, but they can also be hot-button issues. To achieve an anthropological perspective, we must be open-minded, respectfully speak and listen to each other, and understand diverse perspectives.

Course Overview

A global introduction to the religions of the world from a broad comparative perspective. Students examine the development and aspects of various religions (indigenous, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity, and others). The relationship between religion and the social and cultural context are explored, especially in relation to nationalism, politics, and globalization. (From the course catalog)

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Evaluate religion using academic methods, such as those used in anthropology, comparative religion, and/or religious studies.
- Describe and compare the doctrine, institutional structures, and ethical systems of a sample of the religions (e.g., indigenous religions, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, and/or others) while emphasizing the development of World Religions and their subdivisions.
- Analyze the various media (e.g., texts, music, ritual, symbolism, architecture, etc.) through which religious knowledge and belief are expressed.
- Explore the interplay between religious belief systems and religious practice.
- Evaluate relationships between religion and the social/cultural context, especially in relation to nationalism, politics, and globalization.

General Education Rating

Connections – Historical and Intellectual Perspectives	3
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Required Textbooks

The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft, 3rd ed.

By Rebecca L. Stein and Philip L. Stein

Routledge

ISBN: 9780205718115

Evaluation

The Bellevue College grading policy is found here:

<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-3000/>. Please note that an A grade is assigned to work that EXCEEDS expectations, so to get an A in this course, you will need to go beyond the minimum asked in assignments.

Your final grade in this class will be based on **five** Components:

- Attendance and In-Class Exercises = 100 pts
- Myth, Symbol, Ritual Paper and Presentation = 100 pts
- Religion Fieldwork Project = 150 pts
- Glossary = 2x25 pts = 50 pts
- Exam = 100 pts

TOTAL = 500 pts

Attendance and In-Class Exercises

You are expected to attend class, participate in class discussions, complete in-class exercises, and engage and contribute to the class learning environment.

Myth, Symbol, Ritual Paper and Presentation

You will write a 3- to 4-page, double-spaced paper and present it in class. Details will be presented in class.

Religion Fieldwork Project

You will observe and attend a religious practice different than your own and write a 5- to 7-page, double-spaced paper on your experience, observations, and research into the religion. Details will be presented in class.

Exam

There is one exam on the required text that covers the text and concepts presented in class.

Glossaries

There will be 2 glossaries of terms from the text and lectures.

Late work submission

To be fair to students who submit their work on time, written assignments that are submitted after the day they are due will be subject to a 10% reduction in points for every day they are late, including weekends, non-instruction days, and holidays. After one week, late assignments will not be accepted and a 0 will be awarded. However, I understand and respect that life happens and unexpected circumstances occasionally occur that prevent students from submitting work on time. Please contact me as soon as possible and emergency situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Being busy, going on vacation, being pressured with outside work, or having competing academic commitments are not valid reasons to grant extensions.

Grading Scale (maximum of 500 points)

Your final grade will be based upon the accumulation of points using the table below.

Grade	Point Value	Grade	Point Value	Grade	Point Value	Grade	Point Value
A	500 – 465	B	434 – 415	C	384 – 365	D	324 - 300
A-	464 – 450	B-	414 – 400	C-	364 – 350	F	299 and below
B+	449 – 435	C+	399 – 385	D+	349 – 325		

The link to the College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog: [Grading Policy](#).

JUST BECAUSE THIS SYLLABUS DOESN'T EXPLICITLY SAY YOU CAN'T DO SOMETHING... IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN DO IT.

Schedule

This class is designed in weekly sessions. Textbook chapters are assigned for each week (see schedule below). There may be additional articles or videos assigned for discussions.

DEADLINES ARE NOT FLEXIBLE.

Student Responsibilities

To make the most out of the educational opportunities in this class, you need to take an active and energetic role in your own learning process. Success can best be achieved by completing the following student responsibilities. Also, please see the Bellevue College Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#).

- Complete weekly reading assignments prior to online discussions.
- Participate actively.
- Be respectful in class discussions.
- Complete assignments. Don't wait until the last minute to ask for help.
- Turn work in on time. No late work will be accepted after the end of the course unless arrangements with the professor have been made.
- Contact your professor if you have any questions. I am happy to talk to you and help!

HELP WITH CANVAS: The following is helpful for [Students](#).

Explore the LMC! The Library Media Center is at your fingertips! I *strongly* encourage you to visit the LMC at least this quarter, but you can also access it via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling (425) 564-6161, or by email: reference@bellevuecollege.edu.

- **Main Library Media Center:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- **For the LMC online catalog:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>
- **For article databases:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>

For all of your written work: Submit proofread work **only**. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

Academic Success

Center:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>

- Academic Tutoring

Center:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>

- TRiO Student Support Services:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>

- Writing Lab @

BCC:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>

Software

Word Processor: Microsoft Word is the only word processor supported at the college. You must use Microsoft Word to prepare any documents to be submitted. Documents submitted in any other format will not be accepted. I may ask for a resubmission in word doc format.

Web browser

You must use a Web browser supported by Canvas. Information about supported browsers is posted on the Distance Education Website (www.bellevuecollege.edu/distance/). If you are having problems, your first step should be to try a different browser.

Academic Calendar

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- [Enrollment Calendar](#) On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- [College Calendar](#) This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

Safe Zone

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

This class is designed to explore and discuss controversial issues. Sometimes these issues evoke emotional or personal responses. It is important for students to be able to speak their minds without worrying about ridicule, demeaning remarks, or hurtful statements. Any occurrences of such comments will be dealt with immediately.

Religious Holidays

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what

constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements](#).

Academic Integrity

Cheating and plagiarism will not be accepted. Proper citation of ideas, concepts and quotes that are not your own is required. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a zero score on that assignment and will be reported to BC administration. ***All assignments submitted to the Assignments section in Canvas will also be checked by Turnitin, a plagiarism detection service.***

Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#)

Preventing Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in your own words and/or don't document your source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.

e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

f. Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

Information about Bellevue College's copyright guidelines can be found at: [College Copyright Policy](#)

This link provides a good, short summary of how to avoid plagiarism: [Avoiding Plagiarism](#)

This 22-minute video also provides a good overview of how to avoid trouble when using sources: From the college home page select SERVICES, then LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER, then DATABASES, then FILMS ON DEMAND. At their site, search by title for **PLAGIARISM 2.0: ETHICS IN THE DIGITAL AGE.**

Important Campus Information

Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: [Create Email](#)

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Technology Help Desk](#)

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc., please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact [Autism Spectrum Navigators](#) Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125. The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is **DRCatBC** (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually **DRCatBC**). Please visit our website at [Disability Resource Center](#) for application information into our program and other helpful links.

Accessibility

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

Public Safety and Emergencies

Public Safety is located in the K building and can be reached at **425-564-2400** (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at [RAVE Alert Registration](#)

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:

- 1) Take directions from those in charge of the response** -We all need to be working together.
- 2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to)** - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.
- 3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.**

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the [Public Safety](#) web page for answers to your questions.

WHAT COURSES IN ANTHROPOLOGY ARE OFFERED AT BC?

There is a general introductory class (Survey of Anthropology) which highlights all four sub-disciplines of anthropology. BC offers in-depth courses in Anthropology which I encourage you to take: archaeology (Great Discoveries in Archaeology; Archaeology; Ancient North America; Incas & Their Ancestors; Aztecs, Mayas, & Their Ancestors), biological anthropology (Biological Anthropology; BioAnthropology with Lab; Cross-cultural Medicine; Forensic Anthropology), cultural anthropology (Food, Drink, & Culture; American Life & Culture; Cultural Anthropology; Sex, Gender, & Culture; Environment & Culture; REEL Culture; Religion & Culture) and linguistics (Language, Culture, & Society). Check BC's Course Catalogue for a full description of each course. We will also be offering several special topics courses spanning the discipline. Topics may include Primatology, Experimental Archaeology, Anthropology of Immigration and Scandinavian Culture. There are no prerequisites for any of these courses and they fulfill degree requirements. Different formats (on campus, on-line, hybrid) are offered. Stop by and visit the Social Science Advisor, Deanne Eschbach, in Room D110, for free professional planning and advising, or contact Anthropology Prof. Anthony Tessandori (tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu) to learn more about majoring in anthropology.

COMMUNICATION: According to Bellevue College policy, I am only allowed to communicate with students over official BC emails systems (Bellevue Email or Canvas). If you email me from your personal email I may not respond. I am also subject to FERPA law which states that I am not allowed to communicate with any other person outside this institution about your academic issues without given and documented consent (this includes parents, none BC teachers or instructors)

Tentative Anthropology Offering Winter 18

Class	On Campus	Online
Anth&100: Survey of Anthropology	X	X
Anth 180: American Life and Culture	X	X
Anth&205: Biological Anthropology+		X
Anth&206: Cultural Anthropology*	X	X
Anth 208: Language, Culture and Society*	X	X
Anth&215: Biological Anthropology with Lab+	X	X
Anth 219: Sociolinguistics		X

Anth&234: Religion and Culture		X
Anth&236: Forensic Anthrpology	X	

(* denotes required courses for the Academic Concentration in Anthropology)
 (+ denotes a choice between two courses for the Academic Concentration in Anthropology)

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EARNING A CONCENTRATION IN ANTHROPOLOGY, ALONG WITH YOUR DEGREE?

In addition to earning an AAS degree, you can take 20 credits of required courses to earn a concentration in Anthropology. These four courses provide the basic foundation of Anthropology and represent the 4-field approach of American Anthropology. All of them are be offered on campus and on-line.

ANTH& 204 – Archaeology (5 credits of Social Science)

ANTH 208 – Language, Culture, & Society (5 credits of Humanities or Social Science)

ANTH& 206 – Cultural Anthropology (5 credits of Social Science)

ANTH& 215 – BioAnthropology with Lab (6 credit of Lab Science) **or** ANTH& 205 – Biological Anthropology (5 credit of natural science)

Anthropology Paper Usage Policy

In an attempt to conserve resources the Anthropology Department has implemented a paper use reduction policy. We will use MyBC to post materials required for class (i.e. readings, activities, the complete syllabus...). When necessary we will make copies for class, but this will be when posting is not an option. You are not expected to print all materials. When we think it would be beneficial to print materials we will inform you of this. but will not require it. We know that it is not always convenient and understand that we all must make changes to attain a sustainable life style.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office

of the Dean of Student Services and at

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal from Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*