

**840-101 Introduction to Religion -Social Patterns  
Fall 2012**

*Instructor: Amir N. Zamani, Ph.D.*

*Office: 106 Loree Hall, DC*

*Office Hours: M 10:00-11:00 (and Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 -by appointment only )*

*Tel: 732-932-9641*

*e-mail: zamanian@rci.rutgers.edu*

**Required Textbooks:**

- I de Waal Malefijt, A. *Religion and Culture: An Introduction to Anthropology of Religion*. Waveland Press 1989. Hereafter: dwm
- II Weber, Max *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Dover publications
- III {Articles on Reserve at Alexander Library}

**Course Design and Procedures:**

Students are urged to attend the classes regularly and to participate in class discussions on the assigned readings. Examinations are not cumulative and will be based on the material covered in lectures, textbooks, handouts, and reserve materials. [Reserve materials are identified by "R"]

The final grade will be calculated on the following basis:

Class attendance and participation: 10 %

Two Hourly Examinations on **10/15** and **11/20** (30% each)

Final examination: (30%)

**Reading List:**

\*\*\*\*\***Sessions**

**ns Topics and Reading Assignments**

9/6,10 *Introduction, Anthropological approach to the study of Religion*  
Read: dwm, Chapter 1

9/10,13 *Pre-historic Religion*  
Read: dwm, Chapter 5

9/17,20,24,27&10/1 *Early Theories and the Development of the New Discipline of Religious Studies*

Read: dwm, Chapters 2 & 3

**R:** Kroeber and Kroeber , Frazer,

Durkheim

10/4,8,11 *Modern Theories of Religion*  
Read: dwm, Chapter 4

**First Hourly Test 10/15**

10/18,22,25

*Religious Beliefs and Communication*

Read: dwm, Chapters 6 & 8

**R:** Hallpike, Douglas

Handout I

10/29 & 11/1

*Myth and Ritual*

11/5,8,12

Read: dwm, Chapter 7

**R:** Lowie, Leach, Turner ("Between...")

11/15,19

*Religious Specialists*

Read: dwm Chapter 9

**R:** Rasmussen, Turner ("Divination...")

**Second Hourly Test: Tuesday 11/20 - CLASSES FOLLOW THURSDAY SCHEDULE**

11/26, 29; 12/3,6,10

*Dynamics of Religion*

Read: Weber, Chapters 1,2,3,4 {Part A (Calvinism) only}  
and 5

**Final Examination**