Religious Studies 1H: “Religion and Law”

Fall 2013  Taught by Prof. Mairaj Syed

Lecture: Tues./Thurs. 4:40-6:00pm, 1227 Haring

Discussion Sec. 01: Wed. 9:00-9:50am, 151 Olson – CRN 54057
Discussion Sec. 02: Wed. 10:00-10:50am, 125 Wellman – CRN 54058
Discussion Sec. 03: Thurs. 2:10-3:00pm, 163 Olson – CRN 54059
Discussion Sec. 04: Thurs. 3:10-4:00pm, 207 Olson – CRN 54060

Religion and law are ubiquitous features of human societies. This course will consist of a comparative investigation of these two phenomena across different religious traditions, time periods, and areas of the world. In the first half of the course, we will analyze how Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam have conceived of the law in broad terms. When possible, we will also look at how these religions regulated the institution of marriage. In the second half of the course, we will analyze how the emergence and popularization of the modern state affected the way the law was conceived by the different religions. We will end the course by looking at how different states attempted to regulate religion.

GE Credit (Pre-Fall 2011): None.
GE Credit (Fall 2011 onwards): Arts & Humanities, Oral Literacy, World Cultures and Writing Experience.

No prerequisites.