

October 4, 2006

Dear Colleagues in the Study of Religion:

Greetings to all of you and welcome back to another fun-filled year at the Capstone.

The advising period for Spring semester 2007 begins October 16 and continues until the 27th. You may make an appointment to meet with me during that time by reserving a slot on the sign-up sheet in the Religious Studies office, Manly 212. Since registration will begin this fall half way through the advising period, I am asking that seniors, in particular, sign up for advising during the first week of advising period. Better yet, I invite you to stop by before the advising period. Sign-up sheets for the weeks of October 2nd and October 9th can also be found in the Religious Studies office. In addition, my regular office hours are from 11-12:15 on Wednesdays in Manly Hall, room 206. I would suggest that you bring a filled-out Religious Studies Major or Minor form with you for advising, so we both have a clear picture of where you stand in relation to the departmental requirements appropriate to your catalogue year. These forms are available from the Religious Studies office.

Please watch the bulletin boards around the department for enticing descriptions of the courses that will be offered in the Spring. Already in circulation is a flyer for Professor Murphy's REL 480 course "Religion, Religious Studies, and Colonialism" which you are invited to consider. Other new offerings include Dr. Marouan's REL 237 course "African American Religious History and Fiction" and Dr. Ramey's REL 370 course "Survey of Islamic Traditions."

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the recent Religion *in* Culture lecture featuring Dr. Alexis McCrossen from Southern Methodist University. Her presentation included a series of fascinating slides and was followed by a spirited discussion session. There will be more events like this in the coming months. Our Aronov Lecturer this year will be Dr. Tomoko Masuzawa from the University of Michigan. She will be joining us on March 7th and 8th. For more information about these events, please consult the Events section of the Religious Studies web page: <http://www.as.ua.edu/rel/events.html>.

Studying Religion *in* Culture



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I look forward to meeting with all of you in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,



Theodore Trost
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