Course Description
This course will examine human religious experience from an anthropological perspective, focusing on topics such as myth, ritual, magic, witchcraft, ghosts, and healing. To illustrate the wealth of religious expression that exists around the world, examples from a variety of societies, including our own, will be discussed.

Student Learning Objectives
- Students will learn the historical development of anthropological ideas regarding religion.
- Students will gain an understanding of religion as an institution through which gender, class, health, identity, morality and personhood are expressed.
- Students will examine the ways in which religions, and their adherents, respond to social, political and economic changes.
- Students will use appropriate research tools to formulate a scholarly argument within the context of anthropology.
- Students will learn to express ideas and arguments verbally in an academic environment.

Required Texts and Readings:

All additional readings for this class are posted as pdf documents on Laulima (in the Resources folder).

Grading and Student Evaluation

Group Presentations (55%)
Beginning in Week 4, students will be divided into six groups. Each class, one group will be responsible for reviewing the readings and mediating discussion. As a guide, I will distribute a list of questions in advance that the group must answer. Some of these questions will require further research. In addition, the group is responsible for facilitating debate. Ask questions, start conversations, and get people talking. Groups should meet in advance to divide the work for each week. Be sure to manage your time wisely to ensure that all of the assigned questions are answered in class. Although working as a group, students will be graded individually. Each group will give four presentations.
Discussion Questions and Summary (15%) 
Starting in Week 4, students should prepare two additional discussion questions for each class. Before the presenting group begins, one student will be randomly selected to share his or her questions, which the group must answer. At the end of the class, another student will be randomly selected to summarize the main points of the discussion and readings. Summaries should be less than five minutes in length and should focus on three to five points. Each student will provide one set of questions and one summary.

Class Participation (5%) 
In addition to oral presentations, students are expected to participate in class discussion. Students that talk in class and answer questions will receive higher participation scores.

Final Exam (25%) 
The final exam will consist of essay questions and be given in our usual classroom on Monday December 12 from 9:45 to 11:45.

Missed Presentations 
If, for any reason, a student misses a group presentation, the grade must be made up by writing a ten page research paper on one of the issues covered in the week that was missed. The paper must cite at least ten scholarly sources, follow the standards outlined in the document ‘Guidelines for Papers’ (on Laulima), and is due on the day of the final exam. Students are allowed to make up one absence for both the discussion question and summary. If a second absence occurs for any reason, a five page reading response paper must be submitted. If a student misses two or more group presentations, the highest grade possible will be a D- and the student will not earn O Focus credit.

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99-97</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96-93</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92-90</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-87</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-83</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-77</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-73</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-63</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59-0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classroom Policies

- Be on time for class.
- Cell phones must be turned off. No computers are allowed in class.
- All course handouts, readings, and assignments can be found on Laulima.
- Students are responsible for all course content, whether or not they are in class.
- For more information about writing resources on campus and online, go to http://www.mwp.hawaii.edu/writer_help.htm.
# Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: Defining Religion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 8/24 | *Edward Tylor*, Religion in Primitive Culture  
       *Emile Durkheim*, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2: Defining Religion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8/29 | *John Raines*, Marx on Religion: Introduction  
       *Max Weber*, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism |
| 8/31 | *Clifford Geertz*, Religion  
       *Talal Asad*, The Construction of Religion as an Anthropological Category |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3: Pollution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9/7 | *Mary Douglas*, Secular Defilement (The additional chapter included in the pdf is optional.)  
       *Johan Fischer*, Halal and Malay Middle Class Mobility in Malaysia |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4: Myth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9/12 | *John Beattie*, Nyoro Myth  
       *Claude Levi-Strauss*, Harelips and Twins |
       *Michael Jindra*, Star Trek Fandom as a Religious Phenomenon |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5: Magic and Witchcraft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9/19 | *Bronislaw Malinowski*, Rational Mastery by Man of His Surroundings  
       *James Frazer*, Sympathetic Magic  
       *George Gmelch*, Baseball Magic |
| 9/21 | *E.E. Evans-Pritchard*, The Notion of Witchcraft Explains Unfortunate Events  
       *Filip De Boeck*, On Being Shege in Kinshasa |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6: Ritual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9/26 | *Barbara Myerhoff*, Return to Wirikuta  
       *Tanya Luhrmann*, Ritual: Techniques for Altering the Everyday |
| 9/28 | *Victor W. Turner*, Betwixt and Between  
       *Morgan Gerard*, Selecting Ritual |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7: Conversion, Experience and Economy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10/3 | *Susan Harding*, Convicted by the Holy Spirit  
       *Mary Lee Daugherty*, Serpent-Handling as Sacrament |
| 10/5 | *Laurel Kendall*, Gods, Markets and the IMF in the Korean Spirit World  
       *Peter Cahn*, Building Down and Dreaming Up |
Week 8: **Death**
10/10 *Peter A. Metcalf*, *Death Be Not Strange*
*Beth A. Conklin*, “Thus are Our Bodies, Thus was Our Custom”
10/12 *C. Allen Haney, Christina Leimer, and Juliann Lowery*, *Spontaneous Memorialization*
*Thomas Csordas*, *A Handmaid's Tale*

Week 9: **Gender and Sexuality**
10/17 *Robert Fulton and Steven Anderson*, *The Amerindian Man-Woman*
*Serena Nanda*, *The Hijras of India*
10/19 *Ruth Morgan and Graham Reid*, 'I've Got Two Men and One Woman'
*Moshe Shokeid*, *The Drashah*

Week 10: **Sex / Cults**
10/24 *Jane Anderson*, *The Contest of Moralities*
*Samuel Heilman*, *The Triumph of Sex*
10/26 *Michael Barkun*, *Reflections after Waco: Millennialists and the State*
*John Hall*, *Apocalypse at Jonestown*
*Eileen Barker*, *The Unification Church*

Week 11: **Colonization and Religion: Revitalization / Conversion**
10/31 *Anthony F.C. Wallace*, *Revitalization Movements*
*Kenelm Burridge*, *New Heaven, New Earth*
*Peter M. Worsley*, *Cargo Cults*
11/2 *Jean and John Comaroff*, *The Colonization of Consciousness*
*Thomas Pearson*, *Conversion to Refugees*

Week 12: **Colonization and Religion: Symbolism / Ritual**
11/7 *Eric Wolf*, *The Virgin of Guadalupe*
*J. Lorand Matory*, *Free to Be a Slave*
11/9 *Ann Fienup-Riordan*, *Selavik*
*Jean Comaroff*, *The Full Witness Apostolic Church in Zion* (pages 202-236)

Week 13: **Science and Medicine / E-Religion**
11/14 *Alberto Cambrosio and Peter Keating*, ‘Going Monoclonal’
*Sjaak van der Geest*, *Sacraments in the Hospital*
11/16 *Stephen D. O'Leary*, *Cyberspace as Sacred Space*
*Gary Bunt*, *Hacktism, Hacking, and Cracking in the Name of Islam* (The additional chapter included in the pdf is optional.)

Week 14: **Film: The Devil’s Playground**
11/21 Part I
11/23 Part II, Class Discussion and Course Review
Week 15:  *Witchcraft, Violence and Democracy in South Africa*
11/28   Introduction – Chapter 3
11/30   Chapters 4 – 6

Week 16:  *Witchcraft, Violence and Democracy in South Africa*
12/5    Chapters 7 – 10
12/7    Chapters 11 – Epilogue

Week 17:  Final Exam