DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

According to the UCSB Catalog, Religious Studies 50 is a "multi-media course, focusing on textual, architectural, pictorial, and conceptual religious classics, such as St. Augustine's, The Confessions, the Chartres Cathedral in France, Botticelli's painting, The Virgin, and medieval Scholasticism." All of these are treated as "indices of the structure, content, and formation of western culture."

This means that the course will concentrate on certain prominent and/or exemplary religious expressions in western culture. Many of these are literary expressions; some are architectural and structural; some are visual; some are conceptual and analytical; and all are artistic. Or, put in another way, some of the class sessions will concentrate on fundamental ideas and patterns of thought. Others will be more visual in nature, and will focus upon works of art such as one finds them in paintings, buildings, sculpture, and even in the layouts of cities. Still other class sessions will deal with themes which can be found in both conceptual and artistic form simultaneously. An attempt will be made to trace the evolution of these religiocultural expressions and forms from about the time of St. Augustine (354-430 A.D.) into, and including, the current century.

Though its aspirations are large and its focus is multi-dimensional, the course is really designed as a lower-division, first-time class for students who have had little or no previous exposure to religious studies and/or to the history of western religious thought.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tentative Schedule</th>
<th>Topics to be Dealt With</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>Introduction to the Subject Matter of the Course</td>
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<td>January 11</td>
<td>Augustine of Hippo Reading: Chapters and pages from The Confessions to be announced</td>
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<td>January 16</td>
<td>Augustine of Hippo, continued</td>
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<td>January 18</td>
<td>The Role of Monasticism in the Western World Reading: portions of the Rule of St. Benedict, to be distributed in class</td>
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January 23  Medieval Theology and Mysticism  
   Reading: Selections from Silent Fire, to be announced
January 25  Medieval Theology and Mysticism, continued
January 30  Slide Presentation: Cult of the Virgin
February 1  Examination in Class
February 6  Slide Presentation: Gothic Architecture
February 8  The Reformation Era, Slide Presentation  
   Reading: Selections from Luther and Erasmus on Free Will
February 13 The Reformation, continued  
   In-class drama, John Osborne's, Luther  
   (adapted from Erikson's Young Man Luther)
February 15 The Reformation, Calvin  
   Reading: Selections from Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion,  
   portions to be announced
February 20 The Catholic Reformation, Mysticism, 16th Century France and Spain  
   Readings: Selections from Silent Fire, to be announced
February 22 Examination in Class
February 27 The Enlightenment's Attitude to Religion
March 1  Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Miscellany  
   Readings: To be announced and distributed
March 6  A Dominant Figure in the 19th Century: Soren Kierkegaard  
   Readings: Selections from Kierkegaard's Journals, to be announced
March 8  Kierkegaard, continued
March 13  An Analysis of the Nature of Religion
March 13  A Contemporary Analysis of the Nature of Religious Experience  
   Reading: Mircea Eliade, The Sacred and the Profane
March 15  Summary and Summation