CURE 3375/ UGED3430 Science and Religion (2nd term 2023-24)

Lecturer: Prof. Lai Pan-chiu (KKL 317, pclai@cuhk.edu.hk, Tel: 39436465)

Tutor: TBA

Lecture: William M. W. Mong Eng Budg 404, Tuesday 10:30-12:15

Tutorial: William M. W. Mong Eng Budg 404 & 405, Tuesday 12:30-1:15

Brief: This course aims at introducing the students to the relationship between religion and science. It will examine the relationship in historical, cultural, philosophical, and ethical perspectives, and will cover the issues derived from quantum physics, big-bang cosmology, biology, psychology / neuroscience, etc. (No specialized knowledge of these disciplines is required.)

Learning Incomes

Knowledge Incomes

- 1. General knowledge of the relationship between religion and science.
- 2. Basic knowledge of the academic issues involved in the relationship.
- 3. Specialized knowledge about the major theories and models concerning the relationship.

Skills Incomes

- 1. Competence to analyze and criticize the relevant theories in a multi-disciplinary perspective.
- 2. Competence to articulate one's own argument with consistency, coherence and persuasiveness.
- 3. Capable to engage into dialogue with people with different academic disciplines.

Attitude Incomes

- 1. Humble acknowledgement of the complexity of the issues involved.
- 2. Respect the divergent positions in the relevant debates.
- 3. Being reflexive and critical to one's own position.

Learning Activities

Each student is expected to:

- 1. Attend the lectures and participate in the discussion.
- 2. Read beforehand the readings to be discussed at the tutorials.
- 3. Attend the tutorials and participate the discussion. (During the first week, the tutorials may consist of open conversation and arrangement of presentation; formal presentation and discussion may start from the second or third week.)
- 4. Make a presentation on one of the readings at the tutorial group. (The readings are either accessible on-line through the library or available at the Blackboard of the course.) The presenter should submit an outline of the presentation to the tutor for

- consultation at least 3 days before the presentation.
- 5. Submit a term paper of not less than 4,000 words. Sample topics will be disseminated to the students in the third teaching week.
- 6. Individual oral discussion (about 10 minutes) with the professor ("Chat PC") on the term paper submitted.

Assessment: 10 % Tutorial Participation
30 % Class Presentation
50 % Term Paper
10 % Oral Discussion

Schedule

Dates	Topics
9/1	Lecture 1: Introduction - Basic concepts and approaches
	Readings for Tutorial:
	• Del Ratzsch, "The Nature of Science", Stewart 2010, chapter 1, pp.41-53.
	(Chinese translation available)
	Barbour 1997, chapter 4 "Ways of Relating Science and Religion", pp.77-105.
	• Donald S. Lopez, Jr., "Buddhism," Brooke and Numbers 2011, chapter 9,
	pp.210-228.
	Deborah B. Haarsma, "How Christians Reconcile Ancient Texts with Modern
	Science," Stewart 2010, chapter 8, pp.120-130.
16/1	Lecture 2: Religions and the Rise of Modern Science
	Readings for Tutorial:
	Cohen 2015, chapter 1: "To begin at the beginning: nature-knowledge in Greece
	and China", pp.7-50.
	• Del Ratzsch, "The Religious Roots of Science", Stewart 2010, chapter 2,
	pp.54-68.
	• John Henry, "Religion and the Scientific Revolution", Harrison 2010, chapter 2,
	pp.39-58.
23/1	Lecture 3: Astronomy, Natural Theology, and Religious Worldviews
	Readings for Tutorial:
	David C. Lindberg, "Galileo, the Church, and the Cosmos," Lindberg &
	Numbers 2003, chapter 2, pp.33-60.
	• Jonathan R. Topham, "Natural Theology and the Science," Harrison 2010,
	chapter 3, pp.59-79.
20/1	• Lopez 2008, chapter 1, "First There is a Mountain", pp.39-72.
30/1	Lecture 4: Modern Physics, Natural Law, and Religions

Readings for Tutorial: • Brooke 1991, Chapter IV, "Divine Activity in a Mechanical Universe," pp.117-151. (Chinese translation available) • Gary B. Deason, "Reformation Theology and the Mechanistic Conception of Nature," Lindberg and Numbers 1986, chapter 6, pp.167-191. • Ronald L. Numbers, "Science without God: Natural Laws and Christian Beliefs," Lindberg & Numbers 2003, chapter 12, pp.265-285. 6/2 Lecture 5: Evolution and Religions Readings for Tutorial: • Loren Haarsma, "God, Evolution, and Design," Stewart 2010, chapter 11, pp.168-180. • Jon H. Roberts, "Religious Reactions to Darwin", Harrison 2010, chapter 4, pp. 80-102. • Alister E. McGrath, "Darwinism," Clayton and Simpson 2006, chapter 40, pp. 681-696 • John Haught, "God and Evolution," Clayton and Simpson 2006, chapter 41, pp. 20/2 Lecture 6: New Physics, Metaphysics, and Religions Readings for Tutorial: • Ian G. Barbour 1997, Chapter 7, "Physis and Metaphysics", pp.165-194. • Robert John Russell, "Quantum Physics and the Theology of Non-Interventionist Objective Divine Action," Clayton & Simpson, chapter 34, pp.579-595. (quite difficult) • William L. Ames, "Emptiness and Quantum Theory," Wallace 2003, pp.285-304 (more elementary); • 李日章 1998, chapter 7, 量子的奇異現象—微觀世界的佛法見證, 139-192. 27/2 Lecture 7: Big-Bang Cosmology and Religious Worldviews Readings for Tutorial: • Deborah B. Haarsma, "Christian and Atheist Responses to Big Bang Cosmology," Stewart 2010, chapter 9, pp.131-149. • William R. Stoeger, "God, Physics and the Big Bang", Harrison 2010, chapter 8, pp.173-189. • William A. Dembski, "In Defence of Intelligent Design," Clayton & Simpson 2006, chapter 42, pp.715-731; preferably together with: • Robert T. Pennock, "The Pre-Modern Sins of Intelligent Design", Clayton and Simpson, chapter 43, pp.732-748. •李日章 1998, chapter 6,「相對論」的新發現—物理層面的「緣起」事例, 97-138. 12/3 Lecture 8: Ecology and Religions Readings for Tutorial: • Lynn White, Jr., "The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis," Science 155, no. 3767 (March 10, 1967): 1203-1207.

- Celia Deane-Drummond, "Theology, Ecology, and Values," Clayton & Simpson 2006, chapter 52, pp.891-907.
 Holmes Rolston, III, "Environmental Ethics and Religion / Science," Clayton & Clayton
- Holmes Rolston, III, "Environmental Ethics and Religion / Science," Clayton & Simpson 006, chapter 53, pp.908-928.
- Ian Harries, "Buddhism and Ecology," Keown 2000, chapter 5, pp.113-135.

19/3 Lecture 9: Evolution, Morality, and Religions

Readings for Tutorial:

- Loren Haarsma, "Human Evolution and Objective Morality," Stewart 2010, chapter 12, pp.181-201.
- Michael J. Murray, "The Evolution of Religion: Adaptationist Accounts," Stewart 2010, chapter 34, pp.439-457.
- 賴品超、王濤,〈從基督宗教、儒家及演化論看利他主義〉,《漢語基督教學術論評》15 (2013.06),頁 183-214。
- Philip A. Rolnick, "Darwin's Problems, Neo-Darwinian Solution, and Jesus' Love Commands," Clayton and Schloss 2004, chapter 16, pp.302-317.

26/3 Lecture 10: Genetics, bioethics, and Religions

Readings for Tutorial:

- Ronald Cole-Turner, "Biotechnology and the Religion-Science Discussion," Clayton & Simpson 2006, chapter 54, pp.929-944.
- John H. Evans, "Science, bioethics and religion", Harrison 2010, chapter 10, 207-225.
- William Hulburt, "Embryos, Ethics, and Human Dignity," Stewart 2010, chapter 64, pp.960-973.
- Chapman 1999, chapter 5, "Theological Reflections on Genetics and Human Nature", pp.167-205.
- Deane-Drummond 2006, chapter 8, "Woman and Genetic Technologies", 191-219.
- Keown 2001, chapter 3, "At the End of Life", pp.139-188.

2/4 Lecture 11: Evolution and Emergence (by Dr. Chris Kung - TBC)

Suggested readings:

- Peacocke 2004, Chaps. 1-2, pp. 3-49 (Online)
- Peacocke 2004, Chaps. 3-4, pp. 50-83 (Online)
- John Haught, "Emergence, Scientific Naturalism, and Theology," Murphy & Stoeger 2007, Chapter 11, pp. 248-266. (online)
- Philip Clayton, "Toward a Constructive Christian Theology of Emergence,"
 Murphy & Stoeger 2007, chapter 14, pp. 315-344 (online).

9/4 Lecture 12: Psychology, Neuroscience, and Religions

Readings for Tutorial:

- Fraser Watts, "Psychology and Theology," Harrison 2010, chapter 9, pp. 190-206.
- Kelly James Clark, "Explaining God Away?" Stewart 2010, chapter 39, pp. 514-526.
- Wallace 2007, Chap 3, "The Study of Consciousness, East and West", pp.50-64.
- Wallace 2007, Chapters 7 "Samatha: The Contemplative Refinement of

Attention", pp.135-148.
Wallace 2007, Chapter 8 "Beyond Idolatry: The Renaissance of a Spirit of Empiricism", pp. 149-169.
16/4 Lecture 13: Technology, Religion, and Human Future
Southgate 2011, chapter 10 "Technology and Christianity", pp.329-354.
Deane-Drummond 1997, chapter 4 "Biotechnology: An Ethical Critique", pp.79-104.
Herfeld 2002, chapter 5 "Why Create an Artificial Intelligence: A Christian Critique", pp.68-84.
David F. Noble 1997, chapter 10 "The Immortal Mind: Artificial Intelligence".
Philip Hefner, "Technology and Human Becoming," *Zygon* 37.3 (September 2002): 655-665.
Polkinghorne, "Eschatology: Some Questions and Some Insights from Science",

Grade Descriptors

A Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.

A- Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.

Polkinghorne and Welker 2000, chapter 2, pp.29-41.

B Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.

C Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.

D Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes

F Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirements.

References

(The references mentioned below may have a newer edition.)

General Introduction

- 1. Barbour, Ian G. *Religion and Science*. 1997. San Francisco: Harper. (a very comprehensive survey of the subject) Being a Revised and expanded edition of: Ian G. Barbour, *Religion in an Age of Science* (London: SCM, 1990), even earlier version: Ian G. Barbour, *Issues in Science and Religion* (London: SCM, 1966) which was translated into Chinese: 伊安·G·巴伯著,阮煒·曾傳輝·陳紅炬·陳昆路譯:《科學與宗教》(成都:四川人民出版社,1993)。 (too dated)
- 2. Barbour, Ian G. 2000. When Science Meets Religion: Enemies, Strangers or

- Partners? New York: Harper Collins.
- 3. Clayton, Philip. 2019. *Religion and Science: The Basics*. New York / Abingdon: Routledge.
- 4. Clayton, Philip and Zachary Simpson (eds.). 2006. *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Science*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Available on-line. (with articles covering most relevant topics, and many, but not all, of the related religions; some articles are relatively brief.)
- 5. Ferngren, Gary B. (ed.). 2001. *Science & Religion: A Historical Introduction*. Baltimore, Maryland: The John Hopkins University Press.
- 6. Hagg, James W., Gregory R. Peterson & Michael Spezio (eds.). 2012. *The Routledge Companion to Religion and Science*. Abingdon / New York: Routledge.
- 7. Harrison, Peter (ed.). 2010. *The Cambridge Companion to Science and Religion*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Available on-line. (including many good chapters from experts.)
- 8. Haught, John F. 1995. *Science and Religion: From Conflict to Conversation*. New York: Paulist. (typological approach; elementary introduction)
- 9. McGrath, Alister E. 2020. *Science and Religion: A New Introduction*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons. Available on-line. First edition: *Science and Religion: An Introduction* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1999); Chinese translation: 麥格夫著,王毅譯:《科學與宗教引論》(香港:基道出版社,2006)。(quite elementary)
- 10. Morvillo, Nancy. 2010. *Science and Religion: Understanding the Issues*. Chichester / Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 11. Richardson, W. Mark and Wildman, Wesley J. (eds). 1996. *Religion and Science: History, Method and Dialogue*. New York: Routledge. (including many essays for advanced reader)
- 12. Rolston, Holmes, III. 1987. *Science and Religion: A Critical Survey*. New York: Random House.
- 13. Southgate, Christopher (ed.). 2011. *God, Humanity, and the Cosmos: A Textbook in Science and Religion*. London & New York: T & T Clark International. (first edition 1999; version available at library 2005) (providing many short excerpts of representative publications.)
- 14. Stewart, Melville Y. (ed.). 2010. *Science and Religion in Dialogue*. 2 volumes. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. (including many good articles covering a wide range of topics) Available on-line.
- 15. Sweetman, Brendan. 2010. *Religion and Science: An Introduction*. New York: Continuum.
- 16. Ward, Keith. 2008. The Big Questions in Science and Religion. West

- Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Press.
- 17. Watts, Fraser and Kevin Dutton (eds.). 2006. Why the Science Religion Dialogue Matters. West Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Foundation Press. (including contributions from Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Asian Christianity).

Further Reading

- 1. Barbour, Ian G. 1992. Ethics in an Age of Technology. London: SCM.
- 2. Barbour, Ian G. 2002. *Nature, Human Nature, and God*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- 3. Brooke, John Hedley. 1991. *Science and Religion: Some Historical Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 4. Brooke, John & Geoffrey Cantor. 2008. *Reconstructing Nature: The Engagement of Science and Religion*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark.
- 5. Brooke, John Hedley & Ronald L. Numbers (eds.). 2011. *Science & Religion Around the World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (covering Buddhism, Chinese religions, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, etc.)
- 6. Broom, Donald M. 2003. *The Evolution of Morality and Religion*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 7. Brown, Warren S., Nancey Murphy & H. Newton Malony (eds.). 1998. Whatever Happened to the Soul? Scientific and Theological Portraits of Human Nature. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- 8. Capra, Fritjof. 1991. *The Tao of Physics*. Third Editon. London: Flamingo. (Chinese translation available.)
- 9. Chapman, Audrey R. 1999. *Unprecedented Choices: Religious Ethics at the Frontiers of Genetic Science*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- 10. Clark, Stephen R. L. 2000. *Biology & Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chinese translation 2006.
- 11. Clayton, Philip. 1989. *Explanation from Physics to Theology*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- 12. Clayton, Philip. 2004. *Mind and Emergence: From Quantum to Consciousness*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 13. Clayton, Philip. 2008. *Adventures in the Spirit: God, World, Divine Action*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- 14. Clayton, Philip & Jeffrey Schloss (eds.). 2004. *Evolution and Ethics: Human Morality in Biological & Religious Perspective*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- 15. Cohen, H. Floris. 1994. The Scientific Revolution: A Historiographical Inquiry.

- Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press. (chapter 6 "The Nonemergence of Early Modern Science outside Western Europe", pp.378-488 (compared with Islamic and Chinese sciences), answering Joseph Needham's question "Why the Scientific Revolution Eluded China", 439-482.
- Cohen, H. Floris. 2010. How Modern Science Came into the World: Four Civilizations, one 17th century Breakthrough. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- 17. Cohen, H. Floris. 2015. *The Rise of Modern Science Explained: A Comparative History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 18. Cohen, I. Bernard (ed. & intro.). 1990. *Puritanism and the Rise of Modern Science: The Merton Thesis*. New Brunswick and London: Rutgers University Press.
- 19. Crisp, Thomas M., Steven L. Porter, and Gregg A. Ten Elshof (eds.). 2016. *Neuroscience and the Soul: The Human Person in Philosophy, Science, and Theology*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- 20. Davies, Paul. 1983. *God and the New Physics*. Harmondsworth: Penguin. Chinese translation: 戴維斯著,徐培譯:《上帝與新物理學》(長沙:湖南科學技術出版社,1992)。
- 21. Deane-Drummond, Celia. 1997. *Theology and Biotechnology: Implications for a New Science*. London & Washington: Geoffrey Chapman.
- 22. Deane-Drummond, Celia. 2000. *Creation through Wisdom: Theology and the New Biology*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark.
- 23. Deane-Drummond, Celia. 2006. *Genetics and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 24. Dennett, Daniel C. 2006. *Breaking the Spell: Religion as a Natural Phenomenon*. London: Allen Lane.
- 25. Flescher, Andrew Michael and Daniel L. Worthen. 2007. *The Altruistic Species: Scientific, Philosophical, and Religious Perspectives of Human Benevolence*. West Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Foundation Press.
- 26. Foster, Charles. 2009. *The Selfless Gene: Living with God and Darwin*. London: Hodder & Stoughton. Chinese translation 2011.
- 27. Funkenstein, Amos. 1986. *Theology and the Scientific Imagination: From the Middle Ages to the Seventeenth Century*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- 28. Gilkey, Langdon. 1993. *Nature, Reality and the Sacred: The Nexus of Science and Religion*. Minneapolis: Fortress.
- 29. Gregersen, Niels Henrik, Willem B. Drees & Ulf Görman (eds.). 2000. *The Human Person in Science and Theology*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark.
- 30. Gregersen, Niels Henrik & J. Wentzel van Huyssteeen (eds.). 1998. Rethinking

- Theology and Science: Six Models for the Current Dialogue. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- 31. Harrison, Peter. 1998. *The Bible, Protestantism and Rise of Natural Science*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chinese translation 2019.
- 32. Hefner, Philip. 1993. *The Human Factor: Evolution, Culture, and Religion*. Minneapolis: Fortress.
- 33. Hefner, Philip. 2003. *Technology and Human Becoming: Evolution, Culture, and Religion*. Minneapolis: Fortress.
- 34. Hezfeld, Noreen L. 2002. *In Our Image: Artificial Intelligence and the Human Spirit*. Minneapolis: Fortress.
- 35. Hezfeld, Noreen L. 2009. *Technology and Religion: Remaining Human in a Co-created World*. West Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Foundation Press.
- 36. Hill, Matthew Nelson. 2016. Evolution and Holiness: Sociobiology, Altruism, and the Quest for Wesleyan Perfection. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic.
- 37. Hinde, Robert A. 1999. *Why Gods Persist: A Scientific Approach to Religion*. London & New York: Routledge.
- 38. Hooykaas, R. 1972. *Religion and the Rise of Modern Science*. Edinburgh:
 Scottish Academic Press. Chinese translation: 霍伊卡著,錢福庭、丘仲輝、許列民合譯:《宗教與現代科學的興起》(成都:四川人民出版社,1991)。
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- 40. Jones, James W. 2016. *Can Science Explain Religion? The Cognitive Science Debate*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
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- 42. Keown, Damien. 2001. *Buddhism and Bioethics*. Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave. (first edition 1995)
- 43. Kohn, Livia. 2016. *Science and the Dao: from the Big Bang to Lived Perfection*. St. Petersburg, FL: Three Pines Press.
- 44. Küng, Hans. 2007. *The Beginning of All Things: Science and Religion*. Translated by John Bowden. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- 45. Lane, Justin E. 2021. *Understanding Religion through Artificial Intelligence: Bonding and Belief.* London: Bloomsbury Academic. On-line access.
- 46. Lee, Ya-ming Joseph 李雅明. 2021.《演化與人性:演化倫理學與儒家思想的 創新》。台北:三民書局。
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- 48. Lennox, John C. 2020. 2084: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- 49. Lindberg, David C. 1992. *The Beginnings of Western Science: The European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, 600 B.C. to A.D. 1450.* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. (covering Greek philosophy, Islam, Christianity, etc.)
- 50. Lindberg, David C. & Ronald L. Numbers (eds.) 1986. *God and Nature: Historical Essays on the Encounter between Christianity and Science*. Berkeley: university of California Press.
- 51. Lindberg, David C. & Ronald L. Numbers (eds.). 2003. *When Science & Christianity Meet*. Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press.
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- 54. McGrath, Alister E. 2005. *Dawkin's God: Genes, Memes, and the Meaning of Life*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.
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- 56. McNamara, Patrick. 2009. *The Neuroscience of Religious Experience*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 57. Moltmann, Jürgen. 2003. *Science and Wisdom*. Translated by Margaret Kohl. London: SCM Press. German original 2001. Chinese translation 2002. (chapter 12 about Tao Te Ching).
- 58. Murphy, Nancey & Warren S. Brown. 2007. *Did My Neuros Make Me Do It? Philosophical and Neurobiological Perspectives on Moral Responsibility and Free Will*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
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- *Science and Religion*. Cambridge: MA: Harvard University Press. (including many interesting historical accounts.)
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- 87. Wilson, David Sloan. 2002. *Darwin's Cathedral: Evolution, Religion, and the Nature of Society*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.

Journals Specializing in Religion and Science

Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science; https://www.zygonjournal.org/ European Journal of Science and Theology; https://www.ejst.tuiasi.ro/

Chinese Publications for General Readers

林子淳、賴品超、蘇遠泰合著。《是敵?是友?科學與宗教的多元關係》(香港:明風出版,2012)。(quite elementary)

羅斯頓(Homes Rolston, III)著,陳慈美譯。《科學與宗教:為年輕人寫的簡介》 (台南:財團法人台灣基督長老教會公報社,2021)。(too elementary)