

# MM 100C: Barbarians!

Dr. Ewing

MWF 9:00-9:50AM

\* CE Course, with component at a local museum \*

Barbarians: we think mysterious, hairy, wild, violent people with no culture and who pose a threat to civilization itself. But what *is* a barbarian? Who determines barbarianism? And how do civilizations integrate strange and new peoples into their worldviews?

This class examines literary and historical run-ins with 'barbarians' in Europe and the Middle East, from the ancient Greeks to the Renaissance. By studying how dominant civilizations wrote about, imagined, and interacted with 'barbarians,' we question the ideas of civilization and barbarism, uncover truths about both parties, and explore the larger impact of the 'civilized' and the 'primitive.'

Illustration: Joseph-Noël Sylvestre's *The Sack of Rome by the Barbarians in 410* (1890). These barbarians not only object to Roman sculpture, but also to wearing clothes.





# DECODING SHERLOCK HOLMES

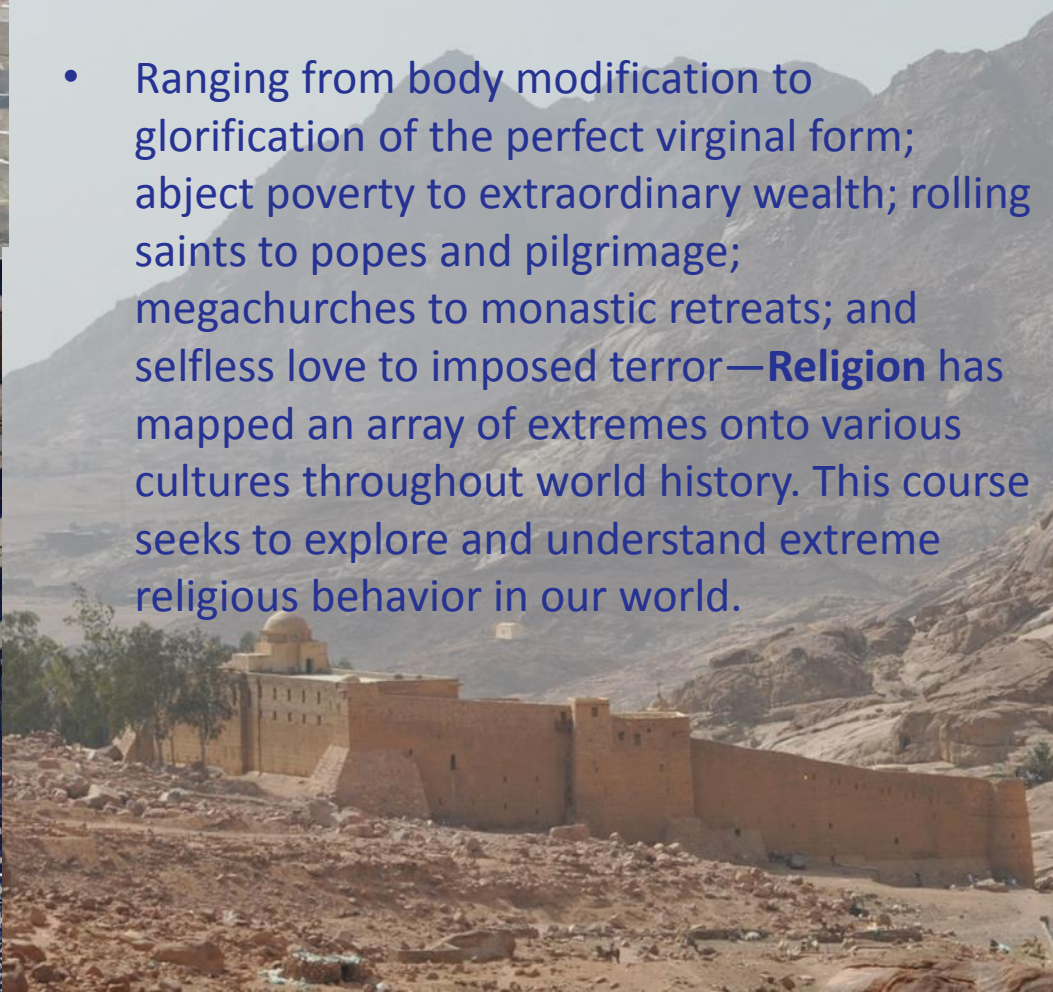
Dr. Ed Cohen



# Extremes of Religion

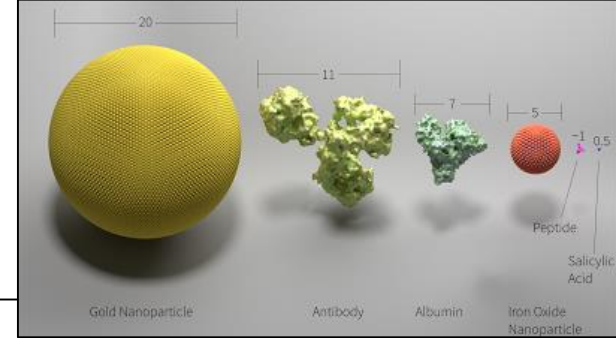
Dr. Todd French

- Ranging from body modification to glorification of the perfect virginal form; abject poverty to extraordinary wealth; rolling saints to popes and pilgrimage; megachurches to monastic retreats; and selfless love to imposed terror—**Religion** has mapped an array of extremes onto various cultures throughout world history. This course seeks to explore and understand extreme religious behavior in our world.



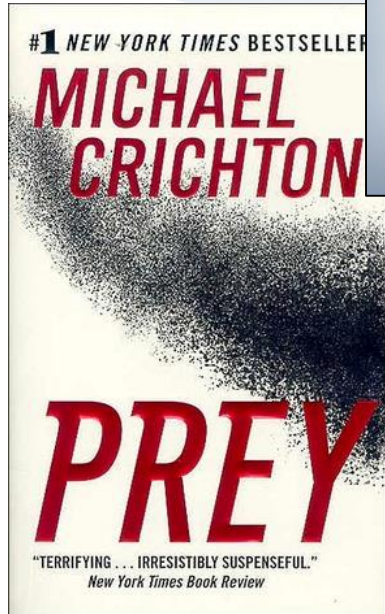
# Discovering a small world of Nanobots, Nanomedicine, and Nanomaterials

- Prof. Ellane Park



How can your ipod or laptop get any smaller? Why does sunscreen contain titanium nanoparticles? How small is "nano"? Through discussions on science fiction novels and learning of scientific principles, this course will explore how nano-sized objects are studied and used to advance fields of medicine, electronics and biomaterials.

The course offers the opportunity to explore the lab, where we will perform experiments to measure the color changes of solutions that contain nanoparticles.







# Greek Initiation

## MM 200H – Prof. Erik Kenyon

A bath with a piglet, genital-shaped baked goods, obscenities from a drag queen and dark rooms full of sweaty people. In ancient Athens this is what passed for church. In this course, we will consider ancient Mystery Cults which purified initiates, revealed to them some great secret, and promised a better place in the afterlife. Through myth, literature and art we will explore how Philosophers sought to purify the soul, and how the thirst for secrets inspired the West's first scientists and historians in their quest to understand the natural and human worlds. process, we will use the Greeks as a tool for thinking about mysteries in our own time.

# Cultural Bling Through American Music



A journey back in time  
through the decades to  
view how national events  
shaped American music  
and culture.



# *The Matrix, Philosophy, & Film:* *Taking the Red Pill*



This is your last chance. After this, there is no turning back. You take the blue pill - the story ends, you wake up in your bed and believe whatever you want to believe. You take the red pill - you stay in Wonderland and I show you how deep the rabbit-hole goes.



The region known as the Middle East has undergone tremendous changes in the past decade. But what is actually going on in people's day-to-day lives who live there? We hear from the headlines about the "Arab Spring," revolution and democracy but we also hear about ISIS, beheadings, terrorism and wide-spread war and displacement. This class will take you inside the headlines to real-life people and stories told through film, rap, theater and art. We will explore multiple voices—those of women, men and teens who come from many different countries such as Egypt, Syria, the Palestinian Territories and Yemen. We will view and experience their lives through artistic projects. Hopefully we will come to a more nuanced and intimate understanding of what we call the Middle East.



TRUTH, LIES AND TWITTER:  
THE MYSTERIOUS ART OF 12

Dr. Hilary Cooperman

This course focuses on international peacemakers such as Nelson Mandela, Leymah Gbowee, Malala Yousafzai and Vandana Shiva, and how they achieved their goals. Oftentimes faced with seemingly impossible circumstances, these leaders rise above the fray to enjoin and rally masses of



people around their cause. Yet, these peacemakers must also navigate complex ethical and political landscapes. In order to better understand peacemakers and the peacemaking process, we will consider peacemaking as a purposeful and delicate *performance*. We will read about these peacemakers' lives and embody their lives by enacting literature written by and about them. We will also look at similarities and differences in the way these contemporary and historical figures walked the line between personal interests, communal responsibilities and media representation.

# The Marvels and Mysteries of Piracy

Spring '16

From the High Seas to DVDs.

Professor Kozel.

This course explores both maritime and digital piracy, with a goal of understanding how and why piracy occurs, and what are some of the consequences. Maritime piracy truly contains many mysteries and marvels, from Blackbeard to the Somali coast today. The last forty years have seen dramatic changes in what is currently called 'intellectual property', with a wide range of intended and unintended consequences, for individuals, businesses and governments. Come aboard and we will explore piracy in various dimensions, and also consider ways to make our current intellectual property regime better for both producers and consumers.

