



Module Judaism and Science

Science Module for a course in either Religious Studies or Theology

Drop in to a course syllabus (with modifications) in

Judaica

Religious Studies

Introduction to Theology

Systematic Theology: Creation

1 week's assignment for a 3 hour class meeting

JUDAISM and SCIENCE

Many of the breakthrough scientific researchers of the modern era have come from the Jewish tradition. Jewish theologians frequently appeal to the principle of *Tikkun Olam* (Hebrew: תיקון עולם or 'תקון עולם'), which suggests that the world we have inherited is not yet complete. God asks the human race,--related in the divine image--to improve the world and thereby continue the work of creation. The Hebrews have been commissioned by God to attend to the welfare of the larger society, to the creation as a whole. Science and technology--especially medical technology--make our world a better place.

DLO (Desired Learning Outcomes)

Added to the set of DLOs for the entire course. The student should also demonstrate...

-- knowledge of what some Jewish theologians say about science.

REQUIRED READING (Select two or three of the following)

RCRS: *The Routledge Companion to Religion and*

Science, eds., James W. Haag, Gregory R. Peterson, and Michael L. Spezio. London: Routledge, 2012.
ISBN 978-0-415-49244-7 (hbk) or 978-0-203-80351-6 (ebk).

This comprehensive volume is valuable for almost all modules.

RCRS 8 Noah Efron, "Jews and the study of nature"

RCRS 24 Lawrence Troster, "Magic, monotheism and natural evil: Classical and modern Jewish responses to suffering"

RCRS 31 Hava Tirosch-Samuelson, "Judaism and the science of ecology"

RCRS 38 Shai Cherry, "Jewish origins: Cosmos, humanity, and Judaism"

RCRS Laurie Zoloth, "Justice in the margins of the land: Jewish responses to the challenges of biotechnology"

RECOMMENDED READING

OHRS *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Science*, ed. by Philip Clayton and Zachary

Simpson. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

ISBN 0-19-9279278-6. Hardbound 2006 or Paperback 2008 okay.

This comprehensive volume is valuable for almost all modules.

OHRS 3 Norbert Samuelson, "Judaism and Science"

Noah J. Efron, *Judaism and Science: A Historical Introduction*. Westport CT: Greenwood, 2007.

ISBN-13: 978-0313330537 or ISBN-10: 0313330530.

Norbert Samuelson, *Jewish Faith and Modern Science: On the Death and Rebirth of Jewish Philosophy*.

New York: Roman and Littlefield, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0742558922 or ISBN-10: 0742558924.

WEB RESOURCES

Jonathan Sachs, et.al., "How Has Jewish Thought Influenced Science," *Moment*

<http://www.momentmag.com/jewish-thought-influenced-science/>