



"Demons to
some.
Angels to
others."

Introduction to the
Class

What is Evil?

Does it come from within us?

Does it come from an external source?

Does it exist at all?



WE'LL CONSIDER THOSE QUESTIONS:

SPECIFICALLY, WE'LL EXAMINE
THE FOLLOWING:

- A. BIBLICAL ACCOUNTS OF
EVIL
- B. THE WITCH HUNTS
- C. THE HOLOCAUST AND
NEO-NAZIS
- D. MODERN EXPRESSIONS



What You Can Expect

Obviously, religion, atheism, agnosticism, and so on will come up.

We'll examine Judaism, Christianity, various pagan beliefs, and Satanism.

You may or may not subscribe to these belief systems. That's fine.

I ask that you be respectful, but that you also have a thick skin this semester.

Triggers

These can be tricky subjects, so just as a warning, you should be aware of the following potential triggers:

- Discussions of religion's impact on society (we won't debate whether or not a particular religion is "true")
- Violence: torture of accused witches, events from the Holocaust, horror as entertainment (these could all include images)
- Language: "Adult Language," (used for academic purposes/analysis, not just to be vulgar) death/rape threats of individuals, anti-religious language.
- ???

Your Perspective

If you hold particular religious views, you will not be told you are wrong or shouldn't hold them (unless they promote violent criminal activity).

You have the right to your opinion, so please don't feel that you or your faith is under attack.

Be aware, however, that others likely do not share your worldview, so be respectful. Also, be thick skinned, and if someone misspeaks, or could benefit from a reasonable discussion, please don't be offended too easily.

If you are abusive to a student or instructor for any reason, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken.

Your Identity

You do not have to reveal your ethnic, religious, gender, socio-economic, sexuality, etc. to me or anyone else in this class.

However, you don't need to shy away from it either; if you feel it's beneficial to bring it up. Please be respectful and attentive if others talk about this.

I may ask for volunteers, but if nobody wants to talk, I'll just move on.

Groups/Topics We'll Address

Religious groups: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Satanism.

Hate Groups: KKK, Nazis, Neo-Nazis

Topics: Extreme violence, sexual violence, child molestation, demonic violence, etc.

What to do if you feel uncomfortable

This class will likely challenge you on many complicated issues, and you'll almost certainly see things that you were unaware of.

That's one of the major reasons people go to college: to learn new things, challenge their worldview, see new perspectives, etc.

If you notice that this is challenging you beyond what is worthwhile academically, please let me, Amanda Dail, Kam Chancellor, Nathan Swords, or someone else in the office know, and we can figure out how to help.