

**HC 199 MANIFESTATIONS OF BELIEF: RELIGION V. THE CONSTITUTION
DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

DECEMBER TERM 2009 – OAK FOREST CAMPUS

Meets at the Oak Forest Campus from 9 AM – 4 PM on following Saturday dates.

Saturday, December 5

Saturday, December 12

Students are expected to attend both Saturday sessions. If you are not able to attend both all day sessions, please do not register for the course. Attendance at all sessions is required to achieve a passing grade.

Instructor: Jean Marie Richine, Office hours by appointment only

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COMPETENCIES OFFERED: This is a one (1) competence course. You may choose one competence from the following: A1X, H2X, H3X, H4

TEXTBOOK REQUIRED: There is no textbook required for the course. Handouts and assignments will be given for reading, analysis and response to these readings. The appropriate requirements will be discussed on the first day of class.

COMPETENCE REQUIREMENT

Each student will be required to submit a 7 – 10 page paper for this course. It will be due no later than Monday, December 21. Unless there is an extreme emergency an incomplete grade will not be issued for this class. In addition, students are required to do assigned readings, small / large group participation, and attend all class sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each year as we approach the holiday season, society is confronted with legal and Constitutional issues on the demonstration and traditional holiday display of religious beliefs. For example, in the Christian community, the public display of the Nativity

Scene has come under criticism and Constitutional challenge under the charge of separation of church and state. Of course, public Christian traditional holiday displays are not the only communities that have been challenged.

In this course we examine and analyze the diverse religious beliefs of our nation, and their manifestations during the holiday season. We also will examine and begin to understand how the Constitution of the United States defends individual and societal freedoms granted under the Bill of Rights and how law is applied in the public manifestation of these beliefs throughout the holiday season and beyond.

Saturday, December 5

Overview of Course

Introductions

Reading Assignments

Discussion of Competence Requirement

Discussion / Group Work

In-Class Writing Assignment

Discussion: Small / Large Group

Saturday, December 12

Group Work

Discussion of Final Paper

Review of Readings / Assignments

Group Discussion

Debate Discussion

In-Class Writing Assignment

Final Wrap-Up