HREL 32900 / AASR 32900 / ANTH 35005:  
Classical Theories of Religion

Autumn Quarter 2011  
Christian K. Wedemeyer

M/W 10:00–11:20 AM  
Swift 310B

Swift Hall Rm. 106  
Office Hrs: M/T 2:00–3:00PM

All readings will be on electronic reserve, with the exception of items marked with an asterisk (*).

Schedule of Meetings:

26 September 2010: Organizational/Introductory Meeting  
Reading(s): none

28 September 2010: Natural Religion through Immanuel Kant  
Reading(s): *Religion within the Limits of Reason Alone*, pp. 3–13, 139–90  
Edward, Lord Herbert of Cherbury, *De Veritate*, pp. 289–307

3 October 2010: David Hume  
Reading(s): “A Natural History of Religion” (entire: in three files)

5 October 2010: Friedrich Schleiermacher  
Reading(s): *On Religion*, pp. 77–95, 189–223.

10 October 2010: Karl Marx  
Reading(s): “Contributions to a Critique of Hegel’s Theory of Right,” “Concerning Feuerbach,” and “On the Jewish Question”

12 October 2010: F. Max Müller  
Reading(s): “The Perception of the Infinite” (*Lectures on Origin and Growth*, pp. 1–51)  
“Forbidden Bibles” (from *Last Essays*, pp. 1–35)

17 October 2010: C. P. Tiele  
Reading(s): *Elements of the Science of Religion*, pp. 1–57, 155–181, 208–236

19 October 2010: Edward B. Tylor  
Reading(s): “Religion of the Savages”  
*Primitive Culture*, vol I, pp. 1–25 and vol. II, pp. 443–453

24 October 2010: William Robertson Smith and James George Frazer  
Reading(s): Robertson Smith, *Lectures on the Religion of the Semites*, pp. 1–27  

26 October 2010: Emile Durkheim  
Reading(s): *Elementary Forms of the Religious Life*, pp. 13–63 and 462–96
31 October 2010: In-class Midterm Exam
   Reading(s): none
2 November 2010: Max Weber
   Reading(s): *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (entire)
7 November 2010: Psychological Perspectives ([Nietzsche/]Freud/Leuba)
   Reading(s): Sigmund Freud, *Future of an Illusion* (entire)
9 November 2010: William James
   Reading(s): *Varieties of Religious Experience*, pp. 3–76 and 475–509
14 November 2010: Rudolf Otto
16 November 2010: Gerardus van der Leeuw
21 November 2011: No class (AAR Annual Meeting, San Francisco)
23 November 2011: No class (Thanksgiving)
28 November 2010: Joachim Wach & Mircea Eliade
   Reading(s): *Introduction to the History of Religions*, pp. 159–67, 3–52
              “Universals in Religion”
              *Myth of the Eternal Return* (or, *Cosmos and History*), pp. 3–48, 141–62
              “History of Religions and a New Humanism”
              “Foreword” to *Shamanism*
30 November 2010: Concluding discussion
   *Take-home Final Exam papers distributed*
   Reading(s): none

   **Final Exams due in Swift 204 by noon Tuesday, December 6th**