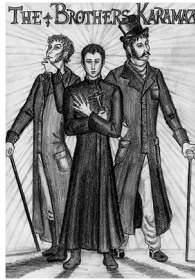


Debauchery and Sainthood in Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*

Julia Brun-Zejmis

Sessions I and II Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 6)
(\$65 for each session)



Dostoevsky's novel, *The Brothers Karamazov*, is regarded as the artistic culmination of his work and represents a grand synthesis of the writer's philosophical and religious views. The novel evolves around the great debate between Western humanism and Dostoevsky's fervent belief in Russian Orthodox Christianity. Three Karamazov brothers are accused of parricide: the reckless Dmitry, the rational Ivan and the mediocre Smerdiakov. Who is responsible for the murder of their debauched father? The course will focus on an analysis of Ivan Karamazov's philosophical tale, "The Grand Inquisitor." This literary masterpiece is an integral part of Dostoevsky's novel and plays an essential role in understanding its philosophical context. The Grand Inquisitor from the Spanish Inquisition acts against Christ in order to save mankind from suffering. Whose sacrifice is greater, that of the eloquent Grand Inquisitor or the silent Christ? A recommended edition of the novel is A Norton Critical Edition, *The Brothers Karamazov*, translated by Constance Garnett and edited by Ralph Matlaw.

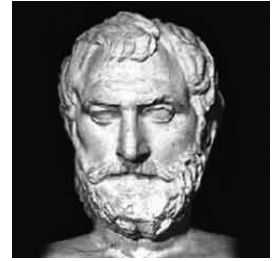
Julia Brun-Zejmis, Ph.D., was born in the Soviet Union during World War II and spent her youth in Poland. During the anti-Semitic campaign in 1968, she was expelled from Poland and arrived in the U.S. as a political refugee. In 1973, she received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in Russian literature and intellectual history. She is the author of several articles on 19th-century Russian literature and philosophy, and has taught Russian language at SUNY at Buffalo, University of Delaware and Lincoln University.

Classes held at 7400 York Road
Suites 100 and 108
Free, accessible parking
(See maps in catalog)

Greek Origins of Western Philosophy and Science

Joe Morton

Sessions I and II Monday, 11 a.m.
Fee: \$130 (begins March 5)
(\$65 for each session)



Thales of Miletus is generally regarded as the first philosopher/scientist in western culture. In the century and a half between the time of Thales (624-546 BCE) and Socrates (470-399 BCE), more and more creative and sophisticated philosophic and scientific theories were developed by thinkers from one end of the Greek world to the other. They extended, revised or rejected the views of their predecessors with amazing rapidity, without newspapers, journals, radio, TV—or even email! The core of inquiry concerned the basic "stuff" of the world, how from one or a very few substances (earth, water, air, fire) the obviously diverse things of our experience emerged, moved and changed. These inquirers explored issues in most of the major areas of human inquiry, from biology to theology, and devised early versions of many fundamental hypotheses, such as evolution, atomism and the heliocentric view of the planetary system. We can learn much from these creative, and often daring, early philosopher/scientists.

Joe Morton, Ph.D., emeritus professor of philosophy at Goucher College, came to Baltimore in 1959 to study philosophy at the Johns Hopkins University, where he completed his doctorate with a dissertation, "The Development of Plato's Theory of Sense Perception." From 1963 to 2005, he taught philosophy at Goucher, where he also started a peace studies program in 1990 and developed an interest in and taught courses on U.S. Native Americans. Greek philosophy is one of Joe's main interests.



The Easter Narratives in the New Testament

Father Bob Albright

Sessions I and II Thursday, 11 a.m.
 Fee: \$130 (begins March 8)
 (\$65 for each session)



The catalytic event/mystery which sparked Christianity was the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and his exaltation at the right hand of God. This Easter mystery created a force in the ancient Western world that has developed into present-day global consciousness and a worldwide religion. Of the three central mysteries in Christianity, the Easter mystery remains the one that goes beyond the boundaries of Christianity since all life will die. The hope of an afterlife, the dreams of a heaven and resting in peace haunt the minds of the conscious world. Studying this Easter mystery will help us uncover some essential questions of life. As we explore the language used by the writers of the New Testament we hope to gain a better understanding of what happened to Jesus and what promises are the basis of Christian belief. We will raise some of the essential questions (and contradictions) that this mystery poses, investigate the earliest Christian faith formulae found in the New Testament, examine the stories of encounters with Jesus after his death, and end "at the tomb of Jesus" in our final class. For believers and non-believers alike, this in-depth study will be an awakening to the beauty of the literature of the Bible, the use of symbolism, and the faith of those who wrote the narratives of this central event/mystery of Christianity. **Please have a Bible—any version— with you for every class.**

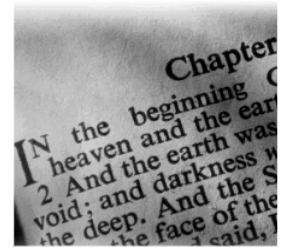
Note: This is a repeat of the course offered in spring 2011.

Rev. Robert E. Albright is a retired Catholic Priest of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He served as the Catholic Campus Minister at Towson University for 26 years before his retirement in 2006. Through teaching a scholarly approach to the Bible over the past 40 years, Father Bob has explored greater interfaith issues at the Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies of Baltimore. He has studied twice in Israel at the International Center for Holocaust Studies, and has been to Israel more than 15 times leading study tours and retreats, conducting private research in Biblical sites and studying the Palestinian/Israeli situation. At the moment, Father Bob is engaged in numerous Catholic/Jewish endeavors, including a funded program to educate Jewish and Catholic high school students in each other's tradition.

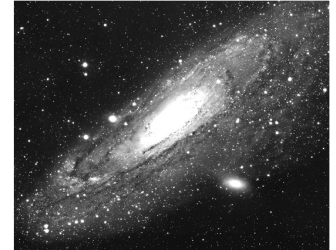
Genesis: Gardens, Seeds, Serpents, Murder

Philip Walls

Session I Thursday, 9:30 a.m.
 Fee: \$65 (begins March 8)



This course will offer a new perspective by focusing on messages buried in the Book of Genesis. There is much evidence from non-biblical myths and from archeological studies pointing to the story of Adam and Eve and other myths of



Genesis as historical allegories describing the changes that occurred as a result of an agricultural civilization replacing that of a paleolithic way of life in the Levant between 12,000 BCE and 900 BCE, the time of the composition of the Genesis stories. That these stories, which were vehicles of teaching both about life and religion, spoke to a history of mankind's journey should be no surprise. We will examine in detail the two creation stories in the book of Genesis, working backwards from Cain's murder of Abel, and showing parallels with changes in concepts of survival and reproduction in the Middle East. Along the way we will examine two models of reproduction: asexual reproduction, finding expression in art and symbols of hunter-gatherer peoples, and the seed model, applicable to the rise of agricultural society and finding expression in Genesis stories. The course is apt to give rise to lively discussion.

Philip Walls, M.D., is a retired psychiatrist and currently a contractor for evaluation of disability applications with SSA. While his formal education was primarily in medicine and related sciences, he has maintained a lifelong interest in the liberal arts and broader fields of science with extensive readings and study of the evolution of man, language, writing and consciousness. He is especially familiar with the history of the development of writing in Egypt, Sumeria and China. Readings in archeology have been a major hobby. These studies have led him to the new perspectives shared in this course.