

HNRS 2020

# GOD, ORGANIZED RELIGION, AND RELIGIOUS SKEPTICISM

FALL 2020 MWF 9:30-10:20

INSTRUCTOR: DR. MADHURI YADLAPATI



*“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” –Aristotle*

Do you enjoy debating questions of religion and faith?

Are you curious about how major thinkers have challenged traditional organized religion?

This course will begin with questions of whether belief in God is compatible with reason and morality and then move on to explore how traditional theism has been modified by modern thinkers. We will address contemporary challenges, including the experience of suffering and evil, feminist and liberationist critiques of religion, and religious pluralism.

While the course deals with faith and doubt, it does not presume or preclude any confessional stance. We will read profound texts with a critical eye, discuss the questions they raise, and analyze their relationship to each other.