

# Anatomy Of The Sacred An Introduction To Religion 6th Edition By James C

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Anatomy of the Sacred  
How To Study The Sacred: An Introduction To Religious Studies  
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Lessons Evil in Modern Myth and Ritual Bibliotheca Cornubiensis Jelard Cyclopaedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature *James C.  
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for one semester undergraduate courses in introduction to religion and comparative religion this comprehensive text introduces students to the nature and variety of religious phenomena belief and practice it shows the ways religion is studied a cross cultural study of the variety of history forms of religious belief and practice such as deity conceptions at the divine myth ritual scripture rites of passage views of the human problem evil and the ways and goals of an examination of the challenges faced by religion today

why do we find historians psychologists sociologists anthropologists even neurologists so interested in religion in the first place perhaps it is because religion is less about god than it is about human beings representing our psycho social emotional biological state our cultural values and our overall history the purpose of this book is to introduce the student to the main questions in religious studies and to survey some of the dominant theories drawing from a variety of disciplines in sum it is a short introduction to the field of religious studies

this is an informative and easy to understand introduction to the academic study of religion touches upon such topics as where did religion come from to what is the social function of religion covers such notable theorists as ninian smart peter berger and mark juergensmeyer excellent as an introductory text for both high school and college courses

globalization has taken the world by storm and has facilitated the unprecedented migrations of the peoples of this world whether we like it or not we will meet foreigners in our communities schools universities buses and other public places but when people migrate they take their religions with them if people of different religious traditions are to live side by side amicably interfaith dialogue becomes imperative but for people to be able to speak

about their own religions with enlightenment and listen to other people's religious beliefs with respect they must have some basic knowledge of how faiths and believers operate because for some people religion is inseparably intertwined with their economics politics and everyday lives this book clearly and concisely introduces religious studies to the reader it makes a strong case for the quest and study of world religions and explores the challenges controversies and methodological issues in the study of religions it also explores other pertinent religious issues such as beliefs rituals myths sacredness morality the problem of evil and interreligious dialogue although written from a classroom perspective this book can be useful to any reader who would like to acquire knowledge of religious issues

treating religion as a fully social cultural historical and material field of practice this book presents a series of debates and positions on the nature and purpose of the study of religions or religious studies offering an introductory guide to this influential and politically relevant academic field the contributors illustrate the diversity and theoretical viability of qualitative empirical methodologies in the study of religions the historical and cultural circumstances attending the emergence defence and future prospects of religious studies are documented drawing on theoretical material and case studies prepared within the context of the british association for the study of religions basr and making frequent reference to wider european north american and other international debates and critiques

space sharing by groups and organizations is widespread in the united states from commercial partnerships to government and private sector joint use agreements to the use of public facilities and commons and more drawing upon a variety of historical examples and contemporary cases the religious

dimensions of shared spaces offers a focused and systematic analysis of space sharing involving religious groups or organizations all space sharing arrangements are similar in most respects so what difference does it make when religious groups or organizations are involved how do they invest meaning in the spaces they use and share including sacred space when and why do they enter into space sharing arrangements with other parties religious and or secular how do religious space sharers structure and maintain their arrangements including handling tensions that arise what can secular space sharers learn from their religious counterparts and vice versa the book also teases out when religion does not matter in space sharing even when religious groups or organizations are involved case studies include internal congregational groups that negotiate the use of shared facilities arrangements between congregations and external groups or organizations multifaith partnerships and shared spaces in secular venues

globalization and high speed communication put twenty first century people in contact with adherents to a wide variety of world religions but usually valuable knowledge of these other traditions is limited at best on the one hand religious stereotypes abound hampering a serious exploration of unfamiliar philosophies and practices on the other hand the popular idea that all religions lead to the same god or the same moral life fails to account for the distinctive origins and radically different teachings found across the world s many religions understanding world religions presents religion as a complex and intriguing matrix of history philosophy culture beliefs and practices hexham believes that a certain degree of objectivity and critique is inherent in the study of religion and he guides readers in responsible ways of carrying this out of particular importance is hexham s decision to explore african religions which have frequently been absent from major religion texts he surveys these in addition to varieties of hinduism buddhism judaism christianity and islam

drawing from sources including the ethology of art and the cognitive science of religion this book proposes an improved understanding of both art and religion as behaviors developed in the process of human evolution looking at both art and religion as closely related but not identical behaviors a more coherent definition of religion can be formed that avoids pitfalls such as the eurocentric characterization of religion as belief or the dismissal of the category as nothing more than false belief or the product of scholarly invention the book integrates highly relevant insights from the ethology and anthropology of art particularly the identification of the special by ellen dissanayake and art as agency by alfred gell with insights from among others ann taves who similarly identified specialness as characteristic of religion it integrates these insights into a useful and accurate understanding and explanation of the relationship of art and religion and of religion as a human behavior this in turn is used to suggest how art can contribute to the development and maintenance of religions the innovative combination of art science and religion in this book makes it a vital resource for scholars of religion and the arts aesthetics religious studies religion and science and religious anthropology

richard stivers concern is with the social construction of evil that is with how modern societies in a partly unconscious way create evil as a category of the sacred and how symbols myths and rituals of evil are related to this he is interested moreover in how modern societies provoke individuals to commit evil actions this fascinating and stimulating book is the first attempt to work out in detail how the concepts of the sacred symbol myth and ritual form a cultural configuration in modern technological societies and not just in traditional societies

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