**The Religious History of the United States and Colonial North America**

This exam explores the diverse history of religions in colonial North America and the United States. The bibliography attempts not only to explore major topics in American religious history but also to engage important interpretive debates and illustrate a range of historical methods. Several broad themes are evident in the bibliography, including religious pluralism; gender, race and ethnicity; revivalist movements; and religion and national identity. However, the list is sufficiently complete and complex to encourage individual students to organize it around topics and issues particularly relevant to their own research agendas.

In addition to reading the books on this list, individual students should select ten primary documents on which they would like to focus. The reading list includes several collections of documents, usually excerpted, that may help in the process of selection, but students must read the ten selected documents in their entirety.  Taken as a whole, the collection of documents must span the entire period from 1600 to the present.

**Historical Overviews**

Albanese, Catherine L. *A Republic of Mind and Spirit: A Cultural History of American Metaphysical Religion*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007.

Dolan, Jay. *The American Catholic Experience: A History from Colonial Times to the Present*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1985.

Evans, Curtis.*The Burden of Black Religion.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

GhaneaBassiri, Kambiz. *A History of Islam in America: From the New World to the New World Order*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Gilpin, W. Clark. *A Preface to Theology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

Kurien, Prema A. *A Place at the Multicultural Table: The Development of an American Hinduism*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2007.

McGreevy, John T. *Catholicism and American Freedom: A History*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2003.

Mann, Gurinder Singh, Paul David Numrich, and Raymond B. Williams.   
*Buddhists, Hindus, and Sikhs in America: A Short History.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Marty, Martin E. *Righteous Empire: The Protestant Experience in America*. New York: Dial Press, 1970.

Noll, Mark A. *America's God: From Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002. *or* Holifield, E. Brooks. *Theology In America: Christian Thought from the Age of the Puritans to the Civil War*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

Sarna, Jonathan. *American Judaism: A History*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.

Seager, Richard. [*Buddhism in America*](http://cup.columbia.edu/book/978-0-231-10868-3/buddhism-in-america)*.* New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.

Tweed, Thomas A., ed. *Retelling U.S. Religious History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997.

# Colonial America

Beneke, Chris. *Beyond Toleration: The Religious Origins of American Pluralism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006

Butler, Jon. *Awash in a Sea of Faith: Christianizing the American People*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990.

Hall, David. *Worlds of Wonder, Days of Judgment: Popular Religious Belief in Early New England*. New York: Knopf, 1989.

Isaac, Rhys. *The Transformation of Virginia, 1740-1790*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1982.

May, Henry F. *The Enlightenment in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1976.

Brekus, Catherine A*. Sarah Osborn's World: The Rise of Evangelical Christianity in Early America*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013.

Stout, Harry S. *The New England Soul: Preaching and Religious Culture in Early New England*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1986.

Ulrich, Laurel Thacher. *Good Wives: Image and Reality in the Lives of Women in Northern New England, 1650-1750*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1980.

Wheeler, Rachel M. *To Live Upon Hope: Mohicans and Missionaries in the Eighteenth Century Northeast*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2008.

# Nineteenth-Century America

# Austin, Allan D. *African Muslims in Antebellum America: Transatlantic Stories and Spiritual Struggles*. New York: Routledge, 1997.

# Braude, Ann*. Radical Spirits: Spiritualism and Women's Rights in Nineteenth-Century America*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1989.

Gordon, Sarah Barringer. *The Mormon Question: Polygamy and Constitutional Conflict in Nineteenth-century America*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2002.

Hatch, Nathan O. *The Democratization of American Christianity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989.

Heyrman, Christine Leigh. *Southern Cross: The Beginnings of the Bible Belt*. New York: Knopf, 1997.

Higginbotham, Evelyn Brooks. *Righteous Discontent: The Women's Movement in the Black Baptist Church, 1880-1920*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993.

Hutchison, William R. *The Modernist Impulse in American Protestantism*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1976.

Jackson, Carl. *Vedanta for the West: the Ramakrishna Movement in the United States*. Bloominsgton, In.: Indiana University Press, 1994.

Marsden, George M. *Fundamentalism and American Culture: The Shaping of Twentieth-Century Evangelicalism, 1870-1925*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1980.

McNally, Michael D. *Ojibwe Singers: Hymns, Grief, and a Native Culture in Motion*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Raboteau, Albert J. *Slave Religion: The "Invisible Institution" in the Antebellum South*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.

Schmidt, Leigh Eric. *Holy Fairs: Scottish Communions and American Revivals in the Early Modern Period*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989.

Shipps, Jan. *Mormonism: The Story of a New Religious Tradition*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1985.

Tweed, Thomas A. *The American Encounter with Buddhism, 1844-1912: Victorian Culture and the Limits of Dissent*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1992.

**Twentieth and Twenty-First Century America**

Cadge, Wendy. *Heartwood:* *The First Generation of Theravada Buddhism in America*.

Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Carpenter, Joel A. *Revive Us Again: The Reawakening of American Fundamentalism*.

New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Curtis, Edward E., IV. *Black Muslim Religion in the Nation of Islam, 1960-1975*. Chapel Hill : University of North Carolina Press, 2006.

Griffith, R. Marie. *God’s Daughters: Evangelical Women and the Power of Submission*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997**.**

Hyman, Paula E. *Gender and Assimilation in Modern Jewish History: The Roles and Representation of Women*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1995.

McKanan, Dan. *Prophetic Encounters: Religion and the American Radical Tradition*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2011.

Orsi, Robert Anthony. *The Madonna of 115th Street: Faith and Community in Italian Harlem, 1880-1950*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985.

Pike, Sarah. *New Age and Neopagan Religions in America*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004.

Satter, Beryl. *Each Mind a Kingdom: American Women, Sexual Purity, and the New Thought Movement, 1875-1920*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999.

# Wacker, Grant. *Heaven Below: Early Pentecostals and American Culture*. Harvard University Press, 2001.

Wenger, Tisa. *We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

Williams, Raymond Brady. *Religions of Immigrants from India and Pakistan: New Threads in the American Tapestry*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Wuthnow, Robert. *The Restructuring of American Religion: Society and Faith Since World War II*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990.

III. Document Collections (Students are not expected to read all of the following document collections. Instead, this list is designed to help students identify ten primary documents on which they would like to focus. Documents must be read in their entirety.)

Patrick Allitt, *Major Problems in American Religious History: Documents and Essays*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2000.

Austin, Allan D., ed. *African Muslims in Antebellum America: A Sourcebook.* New York: Garland Pub., 1984.

Burns, Jeffery, Ellen Skerrett, and Joseph M White, eds. *Keeping Faith: European and Asian Catholic Immigrants*. Marynoll, NY: Orbis, 2000.

Chazan, Robert, and Marc Lee Raphael, eds. *Modern Jewish History: A Source Reader*. New York: Schocken Books, 1974.

Cherry, Conrad, ed. *God’s New Israel: Religious Interpretations of American Destiny*. Revised Edition. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.

Curtis, Edward E., IV, ed. *The Columbia Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States*. New York: Columbia University Press, c2008.

Ellis, John Tracy, ed. *Documents of American Catholic History*. Three Volumes. Wilmington, Del.: M. Glazier, 1987.

Gaustad, Edwin S. and Mark A. Noll, eds. *A Documentary History of Religion in America*. Third Edition. Two Volumes. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

Griffith, R. Marie, ed. *American Religions: A Documentary History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Harvey, Paul and Philip Goff. *The Columbia Documentary History of Religion in America Since 1945*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

Koszegi, Michael and J. Gordon Melton, eds. *Islam in North America: A Sourcebook*. New York: Garland, 1992.

Keller, Rosemary Skinner and Rosemary Radford Ruether, eds. *In Our Own Voices: Four Centuries Of American Women's Religious Writing*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1995.

Marcus, Jacob Rader, ed. *The American Jewish Woman: A Documentary History*. New York: Ktav Pub. House; Cincinnati: American Jewish Archives, 1981.

Marcus, Jacob Rader, ed. *Memoirs of American Jews, 1775-1865*. Three Volumes. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society of America, 1955-56.

Mathisen, Robert R. *Critical Issue in American Religious History*. Waco, Tx: Baylor University Press, 2006.

Matovina, Timothy, and Gerald E Roya, eds. *Presente! US Latino Catholics From Colonial Origins to the Present.* Marynoll, NY: Orbis, 2000.

Mulder, William, ed. *Among the Mormons; Historic Accounts by Contemporary Observers*. New York, Knopf, 1958.

Neal, Lynn S. and John Corrigan. Religious Intolerance in America: A Documentary History. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

Smith, H. Shelton, Robert T. Handy, and Lefferts A. Loetscher, eds. *American Christianity: An Historical Interpretation with Representative Documents.* Three Volumes. New York: Scribner, 1960-1963.

Smith, John E., Harry S. Stout, and Kenneth P. Minkema, eds. *A Jonathan Edwards Reader*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995.

Tweed, Thomas A. and Stephen Prothero, eds. *Asian Religions In America: A Documentary History.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1999.