

Religion and Politics (Religious Studies 3CC3 / Political Science 3LA3) – Winter 2014

TEXT PREPARATION 4 for March 27

This assignment consists of attendance of the full class session on March 27, plus completing the written assignment below, to be submitted in class on March 27 only.

This assignment is based on the following texts (please see the online syllabus for instructions on obtaining your personal printed copies of them):

- Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, "Civil and Religious Law in England: A Religious Perspective" (Lecture before the Royal Courts of Justice, February 7, 2008) [please number the paragraphs on your printout]
- Janice Gross Stein, "Religion, Culture, and Rights: A Conversation about Women" (2008)
- Anver M. Emon, "Islamic Law and the Canadian Mosaic: Politics, Jurisprudence, and Multicultural Accommodation" (2008) (feel free to skim pp. 405–410)

In well-written paragraphs, a total of 600–750 words, please address two out of the three following questions, with detailed reference to the texts.

1. What does Rowan Williams mean by "plural jurisdiction," and how does he view this concept as key to developing a renewed understanding of the relationship between civil and religious law?
2. According to Janice Gross Stein, why or how are women's rights especially affected in decisions about the rights that are due to religious groups?
3. What does Anver Emon see as the potential for "accommodation of Islamic law within national rule of law frameworks," and how does his view relate to the positions argued for by Rowan Williams? (Optional: How are the positions of Emon and/or Williams connected to their characterizations of what shariah/Islamic law is?)

As was the case for previous assignments, all your observations in the Text Preparation assignment should be backed up with references that allow your reader to see what they are based on in the text. For this purpose, please use in-text parenthetical page references—for an example of these, see Harvey, *Writing with Sources*, p. 51, under "MLA Basic Rules." For parenthetical references to Williams, please use "Williams, para." plus the paragraph number. For parenthetical references to the other texts, please use author name + page number.

Note: Since this is your first reading of these texts, and since we have not yet discussed them in class, the Text Preparation assignment is simply a first effort at figuring out what they say, and doing it will help you get the most of our in-class work on the readings. Your fuller understanding will develop in the course of our class meetings, and with successive re-readings.

Please print your assignment double-spaced and with one-inch margins, using an 11- or 12-point font. Please number and staple the pages you hand in.

**Please indicate the total word count at the end of your assignment.

Please keep a copy of your summary to refer to in our discussions in class and tutorial.

posted March 21, 2014

socserv.socsci.mcmaster.ca/danahol/3cc3/textprep4.pdf