My Copy -

Religious Studies 103A Contemporary Trends in Religious Thought Instructor: Prof. Walter H. Capps Spring Quarter 1970

#### COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

# General Auspices of Course (from catalog):

"The courses in Religious Studies are designed to provide students with the intellectual tools and scholarly background required for a critical understanding of the forms and traditions of religion that have appeared in human culture."

#### Course Description (from catalog);

"A survey of the growth and development of twentieth century religious thought and its historical background."

### Particular Stresses of Course (Spring Quarter 1970):

The course has several purposes. It is designed, first, to acquaint the student with the thought of some of the more influential thinkers-about-religion in the twentieth century. Secondly, the course is arranged so that current activities in "religious thought" can be placed in recognizable historical and religious backgrounds. Finally, the course focuses particularly on the various starting on what it is to be religious. points which have been selected when men reflect responsibly on religion and/or

## Topics to be Treated in Class Lectures (not necessarily in chronological order):

Approaching Religion Starting from Immanuel Kant: Background Factors

Approaching Religion Starting from Numinal Experience Reading Supplement: Rudolf Otto, The Idea of the Holy (chapters 3 & 4)

Knowl III. Approaching Religion Starting from Human Anxieties Reading Assignment: (Paul Tillich) D. Mackenzie Brown, Ultimate Concern

IV. Approaching Religion Starting from the Accumulation of Western Culture Reading Assignment: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, <u>Letters & Papers from Prison</u>

Reading Assignment: Richard L. Rubenstein, After Auschwitz

World Outlooks

Reading Supplement: Karl Barth, "Prefaces" +0 mg

Santa Reading Supplement: Karl Barth, "Prefaces" to The Epistle to the Romans; and/or Barth, Evangelical Theology; and/or Georges Casalis, Portrait of Karl Barth; and Rudolf Bultmann, Jesus Christ and Mythology; and/or Albert Schweitzer, Out of My Life and Thought.

VII. Approaching Religion Starting from the Natural World Reading Assignment: Teilhard de Chardin, Building the Earth

Approaching Religion Starting from Analyses of Language Usage VIII. Reading Assignment: John Wisdom, "Gods" in Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society (on reserve).

Approaching Religion Starting from the History of Religions Reading Supplement: Erwin R. Goodenough, "Religionswissenschaft" in IX. Numen.

Approaching Religion Starting from the Future Reading Assignment: Walter H. Capps, ed., The Future of Hope.

#### Ground Rules:

- 1. Paper, due April 27, maximum 6 pages\* (1/5 of final grade)
- Paper, due May 18, maxiumum 6 pages: (1/5 of final grade)
- Final examination, Saturday, June 13, 7 to 10 AM, covering lectures and reading assignments (3/5 of final grade).

"Note: Late papers will be discounted in value by at least one letter grade.

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