



Mermaid in Carriacou, Grenada 1995 (Canute Caliste)

## RELIGION, MAGIC, AND MYTH Spring 2012

CRN: 397 ANTH 211 01 HIRC 9 MWF 9-9:50AM  
 ATTRIBUTES: LA and AH2

Dr. Donald R. Hill [hilldr@oneonta.edu](mailto:hilldr@oneonta.edu)  
 Office: Fitz 403a Hrs: TTh 9:50-11:15 AM

(Dr. Hill communicates to students through ANGEL email or ANGEL "My Announcements." Put your class-related emails into ANGEL email. I cannot reply to regular email messages. Make sure that your email goes to Dr. Hill and not to the whole Class. It is the student's responsibility to check ANGEL, especially the CALENDAR and LESSONS)

**FORMAT:** lectures; discussion; a class presentation and paper; video; audio music, special Wednesday assignments

**TYPES OF EXAMS:** essay questions (usually answered as short, take-home papers), class presentation, term ids, quizzes

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Exam 1: Wed 29 Feb (25% of grade): essay(s) and identification of terms

Paper & presentation: time to be arranged after 29 Feb. Topic selection (3%), grade for paper and presentation (30% of grade).

Final: on Mon 14 May 8AM (32% of grade): essay(s) and ids based on all topics covered

Quizzes and presentation questions (10% of grade)

**READING AND LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Check Angel for assignments, which focus on religious beliefs in the Atlantic region and the African Diaspora.

**OUTCOMES:** To understand religion as belief, emotion, and feeling, as ordinary people might understand religion rather than focusing on particular religions.

**TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE** (Wednesday assignments in parentheses):

1. The Anthropological Study of Religion ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthropology\\_of\\_religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthropology_of_religion))
2. Anthropological Theories of Religion ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theories\\_of\\_religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theories_of_religion) , *Religion of Carriacou*)
3. Belief and Myth (*From Coromantese to Cromanti, A Myth From Carriacou*)
4. Ritual (rites of passage, (*Revitalization Movements*; url in LESSONS),
5. Magic and Divination (*Magic in Tribal Societies*)
6. Belief Systems: (*The Big Drum Dance of Carriacou, Grenada*)
7. Belief Systems: (*The Orisha*)
8. Belief Systems: (*The Spiritual Baptists - 'Rastlin' Jacob and Mami Wata -*  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mami\\_Wata](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mami_Wata) and <http://www.mamiwata.com/mami.htm> )
9. Belief Systems: *Proselytizing Around the World* (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missionary> )
10. Conclusion
11. Final exam: Mon 14 May 8AM

**Note:** Check your ANGEL email for urgent class announcements the night before and the morning of class for weather-related or other emergencies. Please arrive in class on time. Please do not leave class during the assigned period except for emergency. Exams will be given only at time assigned except for illness (no request for early exams will be allowed). Class attendance is required.

For more important emergency procedures, please familiarize yourself with the information on this web page: <http://www.oneonta.edu/security/>