



A Critical Introduction to the Study of Religion

By Craig Martin

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'A Critical Introduction to the Study of Religion' explains the key ideas and methods in the study of religion and demonstrates how they can be used. The aim is to provide students with a tool-kit of critical concepts for studying religious belief and behaviour. Throughout the discussion all ideas and methods are illustrated with clear case material.

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Review

"A Critical Introduction offers a clear, thorough, and effective introduction to critical approaches to religion as social phenomena. It brings the often-verbose theoretical lenses of sociology, anthropology, and cultural studies, and the sometimes-complicated critiques of the field of Religious Studies to a novice readership. ... A unique and notable contribution is that he provides effective approaches from which students can ask new questions of our subject." - *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*

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"For years I have been searching for an eminently teachable yet critical introduction to the study of religion and now, thanks to this wonderful new book, my search is over. The academic study of religion has been greatly challenged in recent decades by advances in philosophy, social theory, and cultural studies that will forever change the discipline. This book takes helpful stock of where we are and of how we should move forward." -- **Terry Rey**, *Temple University*

About the Author

Craig Martin is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at St. Thomas Aquinas College, New York and Executive Secretary of the North American Association for the Study of Religion. He is author of *Masking Hegemony: A Genealogy of Liberalism, Religion and the Private Sphere* and co-editor (with Russell T. McCutcheon) of *Religious Experience: A Reader*.

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