



University
of Victoria

Centre for Studies in
Religion and Society

SCHOLARS IN THE SQUARE



Ken Derry



Mask Dancers, Cheung Chau
Bun Festival. Image: Laszlo Ilyes.

Religion 101: How do we introduce students to the study of religion?

There are many ways to introduce people to the study of religion, and many challenges to doing this. In this talk I will open a conversation on some of these ways and challenges by discussing a few key changes I have made to my first-year religion course over the past 15 years. These changes include considerations of trauma-informed pedagogy; experiential learning; popular culture; the colonial roots of our discipline; and (of course!) generative AI.

Ken Derry is Professor of Historical Studies at the University of Toronto, Mississauga, and a co-founder of the Teaching Religion in Canada initiative.

Sept 25, 2025
CLE B017
5:00–6:00pm PT

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