



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 4.2.24



*Easter Catholic Mass on Sunday, March 31 in Goddard Chapel; photo by Lynn Cooper.*

## A Reflection from your Protestant Chaplain

Dear Tufts community,

For many Christians, this is Easter Week, a time to rejoice in celebration of Christ's Resurrection from the dead. In the Gospels (the biblical accounts of Jesus' life), there are several stories that speak of the Risen Savior appearing to the disciples and others in bodily form. One of my favorite post-Resurrection appearances is found in Luke, chapter 24, which describes Jesus' followers walking from Jerusalem to a village named Emmaus. On their way, Jesus appears next to them and begins walking and talking with them. The whole time they have no idea that it is Christ and think that he's just some stranger.

Then, they arrive at Emmaus, sit down for dinner, and a miracle occurs. Scripture says that Jesus "took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight" (verse 31, NRSV). In my Episcopal Church tradition, we have a prayer that accompanies this story, which includes these words: "O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work" (The Book of Common Prayer, 1979).

I love this idea that the Divine can be made known to us through food and fellowship, among friends and perhaps especially with the strangers who cross paths with every day. When we open the eyes of our hearts and minds to

behold God in each other and in every person who comes across our path - even and especially those we do not yet know - we experience the Divine.

May the promise of new life, celebrated this Eastertide and springtime, be yours.

Blessings,

The Reverend Dan Bell

Protestant Chaplain

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**Hiring Student Workers for Fall 2024**

Apply by Wednesday, April 10

The University Chaplaincy Student Worker Team is hiring for Fall 2024! Our staff gain resume-building skills like event support, copy editing, content creation, and religious accessibility training. They are responsible for caring for our spaces, interacting with guests, groups, and chaplains, and contributing to the smooth functioning of our many events and programs. Please email Associate Director for Programs [Nora Bond](#) with any questions about the position, and find more through the link below.

[Find out more about the student worker](#)



### **Hiring Interfaith Ambassador for Fall 2024**

Apply by Wednesday, April 10

The Interfaith Ambassador Program is a student leadership program for undergraduate students. This team works in collaboration with University Chaplaincy staff, campus student leaders and organizations, and community groups to create more inclusive multifaith spaces on campus. Ambassadors offer opportunities to bring people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs together for reflection, community-building, advocacy, and service. The Ambassador team is supervised by the University Chaplain and receives guidance and support from the whole Chaplaincy team. They also actively partner with student organizations and university offices across campus. Ambassadors work 6 – 8 hours per week. Hours include weekly team meetings and scheduled hours for study, program development, and program leadership. Please email University Chaplain [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with questions and find the position on Handshake below.

[Apply to be an Interfaith Ambassador](#)

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## **Religious and Philosophical Programs**

**Our gatherings are open to all members of the Tufts community! Please find more information and more regular weekly programming and events [here on our](#)**

[website](#). If you have any questions, or would like to connect about convening a new gathering, please [reach out to the University Chaplaincy](#).

# Ramadan Iftars

## March/April 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13

**Note: All iftars will be held at the Tufts Interfaith Center (IFC) located at 58 Winthrop St. with the exception of Interfaith Iftar on 4/12 which will be held in Breed Hall (51 Winthrop Street - across from IFC). On all nights, prayer space will be available at IFC for *Maghrib*.**

### Community Iftars on the Medford Campus

Join the Muslim community for our open iftars! See image above for exact dates and locations (marked in red on the calendar). All remaining iftars will be held at the Interfaith Center at 58 Winthrop Street. Prayer space for maghrib and

Isha/Tarawih will be available at each iftar. We will not be distributing single-use water bottles so if possible please bring your own reusable water bottle to iftar. This will help us eliminate waste during Ramadan. Find more information about Ramadan at Tufts below.

Ramadan 2024 at Tufts

# Beyond Darkness Stories of Renewal

Hear from a panel of survivors and those impacted by the Holocaust and genocides in Darfur, Bosnia, and Cambodia. Listen to the speakers' experiences of strength, fear, and uncertainty, as well as their tireless efforts to advocate for their communities.

April 3rd, 2024  
7:30pm  
@The Joyce Cummings Center  
177 College Ave, Medford, MA 02155



## **Beyond Darkness: Stories of Renewal from Cambodia, Darfur, Bosnia, and the Holocaust**

Wednesday, April 3, Joyce Cummings Center

Reception: 6:30pm at the Joyce Cummings Center

Panel: 7:30pm at the Joyce Cummings Center

Hear from a panel of survivors, including Rachael Cerrotti, Jasmina Cestic, Soben Ung, and Bol Riiny, and those impacted by the Holocaust and genocides in Darfur, Bosnia, and Cambodia. Listen to the panel's experiences of strength, fear, uncertainty, and their tireless efforts to advocate for their communities. Food and refreshments will be provided at the reception, and guests will have the opportunity to meet the speakers prior to the panel.

RSVP For Cummings/Hillel Keynote

# TECH AGNOSTIC

with Greg Epstein,  
Humanist Chaplain at Harvard and MIT

New York Times Bestselling Author of  
*Good Without God*



**THURSDAY, APRIL 11**  
**12:00-1:30P**  
**LUNCH PROVIDED**

**INTERFAITH  
CENTER  
58 WINTHROP ST**

Today's technology has overtaken religion as the chief influence on twenty-first century life and community. In his new book, *Tech Agnostic: How Technology Became the World's Most Powerful Religion, and Why It Desperately Needs a Reformation*, Harvard and MIT's influential humanist chaplain Greg Epstein explores what it means to be a critical thinker with respect to this new faith.

Encouraging readers to reassert their common humanity beyond the seductive sheen of "tech," this book argues for tech agnosticism—not worship—as a way of life. Without suggesting we return to a mythical pre-tech past, Epstein shows why we must maintain a freethinking critical perspective toward innovation until it proves itself worthy of our faith or not.

This is an exclusive book pre-release event for the Tufts community. Tufts ID required.



TO RSVP,  
SCAN THIS CODE



**REGISTRATION  
CLOSES APRIL 10TH  
AT 12PM**

**QUESTIONS?**

**TUFTS.HCAT@GMAIL.COM**

**Tech Agnostic with Greg Epstein, hosted by the Humanist Community at Tufts**

Thursday, April 11, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center

The Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT) invites you to a special event featuring Greg Epstein, the Humanist Chaplain for Harvard and MIT. Join us to hear about his upcoming book: "*Tech Agnostic: How Technology Became the World's Most Powerful Religion, and Why It Desperately Needs a Reformation*." Encouraging readers to reassert their common humanity beyond the seductive sheen of "tech," the book argues for tech agnosticism - not worship - as a way of life. Without suggesting we return to a mythical pre-tech past, Epstein shows why we must maintain a freethinking critical perspective toward innovation until it proves itself worthy of our faith or not. For questions, [contact HCAT](mailto:tufts.hcat@gmail.com).

**RSVP For Tech Agnostic hosted by HCAT**



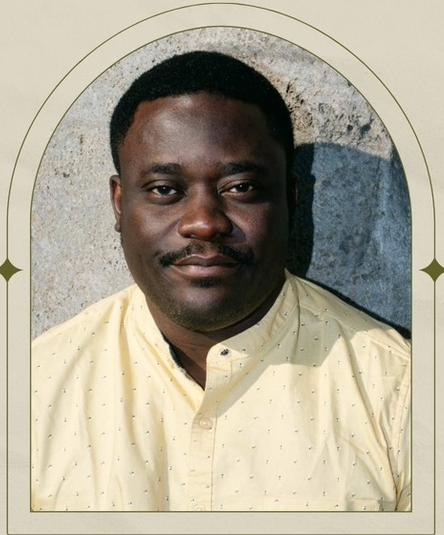
**Holi with Hindu Students Association**

Sunday, April 14, 12:00 p.m., Residential Quad

Join the Hindu Students Association for Holi on Sunday, April 14 on the Residential Quad! Early arrivals get free tshirts to get colorful! You can email Hindu Chaplain [Preet Banerjee](#) with any questions.

## UNLEARNING RETREAT 2024

The Humanist and Hindu Chaplaincies present  
**THERE'S NO TIME; LET US MAKE SANCTUARY**  
with Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé



Wednesday, April 17

4:30-7:30pm

Interfaith Center

58 Winthrop Street

*Dinner will be provided*



*Scan to  
register*

In the wake of fluid migrancies, blurred boundaries between flesh and technology, the rise of AI, daily pandemics, declining trust in democratic institutions, and climate chaos upending the familiar, a new ethic is required. A posthumanist-phenomenological aesthetic of emancipation.

Join Tufts undergraduate and graduate students for a transformative journey where Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé's concept of sanctuary beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all.



Contact Anthony Cruz Pantojas, Humanist Chaplain for more information:  
[anthony.cruz\\_pantojas@tufts.edu](mailto:anthony.cruz_pantojas@tufts.edu)

### **There's No Time: Let Us Make Sanctuary**

Wednesday, April 17, 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. ET, 226 Austin Room and via Zoom

The Unlearning Retreat is a BIPOC space to let go of what no longer serves us. We will be engaging with the work of Bayo Akomolafe over dinner. Join Tufts undergraduate and graduate students for a transformative journey where Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé's concept of sanctuary beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all. You can contact Humanist Chaplain [Anthony Cruz Pantojas](#) or Hindu Chaplain [Preeta Banerjee](#) for more information; please RSVP by April 16.

RSVP for the Unlearning Retreat



# BUILDING SANCTUARY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

226 AUSTIN AND ZOOM  
THURS, APRIL 18 1:30-3:30 ET

**Who are all the stakeholders in creating Interfaith Sanctuary in Higher Education spaces? What is Sanctuary and how do we recognize it when we enter?**

**Please join students, scholars, and practitioners as we delve into these questions and more. Featuring Bayo Akomolafe. Cohosted with Journal of Interreligious Studies.**

Based on special issue #39 "Beyond Resistance: Building, Making, and Creating Sanctuary" guest-edited by Dr. Preeta M. Banerjee, Dr. Sheron Fraser-Burgess, and Rev. Anya Phillips Thomas.

CONTACT  
CHAPLAINCY@T  
UFTS.EDU WITH  
QUESTIONS  
RSVP BY  
WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 17



**Anthony Cruz Pantojas**



**Preeta Banerjee**



**Bayo Akomolafe**



University  
Chaplaincy

INTERRELIGIOUS  
STUDIES  
Journal of Interreligious Studies

## **Building Sanctuary in Higher Education**

Thursday, April 18, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET, 226 Austin Room and via Zoom

Who are all the stakeholders in creating Interfaith Sanctuary in Higher Education spaces? What is Sanctuary and how do we recognize it when we enter? All Tufts students, staff, and faculty are invited as we delve into these questions and more. Featuring Báyò Akómoláfé. Cohosted with Journal of Interreligious Studies. You can contact the [University Chaplaincy](mailto:chaplains@tufts.edu) with any questions; please RSVP by April 17.

[Find more about Interfaith Sanctuary Event and Register](#)

TUFTS MUSIC PRESENTS | SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

# IRON RIVER SINGERS

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 AT 2PM**

**Distler Performance Hall, Granoff Music Center**

**Free; no tickets required**

A presentation at 2pm and performance at 3pm of Northern-Style Indigenous pow-wow music and dance by members of the Chippewa, Wampanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations.



**CHRIS NEWELL, director**

**followed by a post-concert reception**

[go.tufts.edu/musicevents](http://go.tufts.edu/musicevents)  
617.627.2253

CO-SPONSORED BY THE TUFTS DEPARTMENTS OF  
Music | Anthropology | Theatre, Dance & Performance Studies | Sociology | Studies in Race, Colonialism & Diaspora | Civic Studies  
The Tufts Diversity Fund, International Relations Program, the DEIJ Leadership Program,  
and the following



**CENTER for the HUMANITIES at TUFTS**



**FLETCHER**  
The graduate school of global affairs at Tufts University



SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
Music



**MEDFORD ARTS COUNCIL**

Sunday, April 7, 2:00 p.m., Distler Performance Hall, Granoff Music Center

The Tufts Department of Music invites everyone to a presentation of Northern-Style Indigenous pow-wow music and dance by members of the Chippewa, Wompanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations-- The Iron River Singers.

The Iron River Singers is a well-known local northern style pow-wow singing group, bringing together members of the Chippewa, Wampanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations, among others. The Iron River Singers will perform traditional pow-wow music from their repertoire of music, along with dance performances, and punctuated by short explanations. The 3:00 pm concert will be preceded by an interactive presentation at 2:00 pm by the group's director and educator, Chris Newell, to introduce indigenous music to the audience and give key elements to understand its sounds and culture. Join for an post-concert reception in the Granoff Music Center lobby. This event is supported by Tufts Diversity Fund, Medford Arts Council, the Center for the Humanities at Tufts, the Tufts Departments of Music, Anthropology, Race Colonialism & Diaspora, Sociology, History, Theater, Dance & Performance Studies, Tufts Fletcher School, Civic Studies program, and the International Relations Program. For more information, please visit the link below or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at (617) 627-2253. All are welcome.

[Find more Iron River Singers Event Information](#)

# DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

## FALL 2024 COURSE LIST

<b>REL 01</b> CVS 15	1, T 9:00-11:30 AM   Joseph Walser <b>Introduction to Religion</b>
<b>REL 18</b> HEB 70 JS 34	F+, TR 12:00-1:15 PM   Yonatan Brafman <b>Introduction to Judaism</b>
<b>REL 21</b> JS 21	J+, TR 3:00-4:15 PM   Peggy Hutaff <b>Introduction to the Hebrew Bible</b>
<b>REL 34</b> CVS 19	R+, MW 9:00-10:15 AM   Yonatan Brafman <b>Religion and Ethics</b>
<b>REL 32</b> CVS 34	I+, MW 3:00-4:15 PM   Brian Hatcher <b>Gurus, Cults, and Utopias</b>
<b>REL 58</b>	10, M 6:30-9:00 PM   Joseph Walser <b>Zen Buddhism</b>
<b>REL 63</b> HIST 09	G+, MW 1:30-2:45 PM   Jennifer Eyl <b>A Global History of Christianity to the Middle Ages</b>
<b>REL 78</b>	K+, MW 4:30-5:45 PM   Kenneth Garden <b>Islam in Europe</b>
<b>REL 99</b>	D+, TR 10:30-11:45 AM   Elizabeth Lemons <b>Theory and Method in the Study of Religion</b>
<b>REL 102-03</b> CLS 191-03	K+, MW 4:30-5:15 PM   Jennifer Eyl <b>From Creation to Annihilation in the Ancient Mediterranean</b>
<b>REL 102-04</b> CLS 191-04 RCD 94-05	7, W 1:30-4:00 PM   Chance Bonar <b>Race and Ethnicity in Antiquity</b>
<b>REL 103</b> FMS 177	H+, TR 1:30-2:45 PM   Elizabeth Lemons <b>Religion &amp; Film</b>
<b>REL 192-03</b> HIST 170-17	5, M 1:30-4:00 PM   Heather Curtis, Kendra Field, Kyera Singleton <b>Slavery and Tufts: Archival Research</b>

### COURSES CROSSLISTED WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR PROGRAMS:

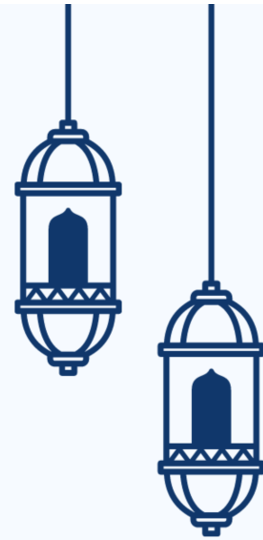
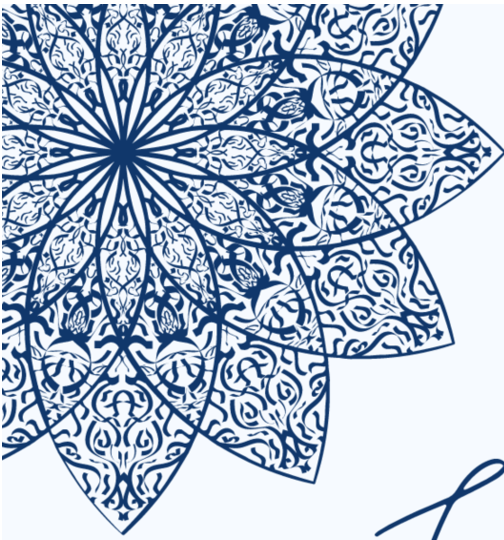
<b>ANTH 132</b> REL 109	H+, TR 3:00-4:45 PM   Sarah Pinto <b>Myth, Ritual, &amp; Symbol</b>
<b>JS 87</b> REL 23	1, T 9:00-11:30 AM   Matthew Hass <b>Introduction to the Talmud</b>
<b>JS 132</b> REL 186	ARR, W 4:30-7:00 PM   Joel Rosenberg <b>Book of Genesis and Interpretations</b>
<b>JS 172</b> REL 182	3, R 9:00-11:30 AM   Naftali Brawer <b>Introduction to Jewish Mysticism</b>

### Fall 2024 Religion courses are live

The Religion Department is offering variety of classes for Fall 2024! You can find more information through the coursebook linked below, and [email the Religion department](#) with any questions.

[Find the Full Fall 2024 Religion Coursebook](#)

**Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities**



*Invitation*

# INTERFAITH IFTAR MEDFORD

**07** APRIL  
2024

McGlynn School  
3002 Mystic Valley Pkwy  
Medford, MA



**6:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**



Scan for Details

## **Medford Community Interfaith Ifar**

Sunday, April 7, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., McGlynn Middle School, Medford, MA

All are invited to gather for an Interfaith Iftar host by local Muslim leaders and the Medford Interfaith Community. In a world that seems to be dividing at alarming rates we need more opportunities to come together across cultural, religious, and political differences. Ramadan is a time set apart to build relationships and (re)connect with God, self, and community. It is a time overflowing with prayer and tradition, and it is also a time filled with joy and delicious food.

The Iftar schedule:

6:00p: Welcome, Program, Reflections

7:18p: Adhan - Call to Prayer, Duas & Break Fast, Maghrib Prayer

7:40p: Dinner and Dialogue

You can find more information and event host contact information below.

Find Medford Community Ifar Information



### Moishe House Applications

Are you a senior graduating this semester? Moishe House Cambridge Central Sq is looking for new residents! Apply today to be a part of an incredible community! Moishe House invites Jewish young adults (ages 22-32) to create monthly programming with your roommates for your local community and become a part of a global Jewish network. They provide the tools and support, you create the programs that fit your interests and community – all are welcome to apply!

Find more about Moishe House

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## Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the [Harvard Divinity School calendar](#).

### Ramadan

Mon., Mar. 11 – Wed., Apr. 10, 2024

Tradition: Islam

The Holy Month of Ramadan is the month of fasting during which Muslims who are physically able do not eat or drink from the first sign of dawn until sunset in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad. The evening meal is celebrated with family.

### Great Lent

Mon., Mar. 18 – Sat., May 4, 2024

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

In Orthodox churches, the first day of Lent marks the beginning of the Great Fast, the final six weeks of a 10-week period leading up to Holy Week and Easter (Pascha). In the churches that follow the Gregorian calendar, Lent is a six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week. It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter.

### Anniversary of the Founding of the Church

Sat., Apr. 6, 2024

Tradition: Latter Day Saints

Annual World General Conference of the Church held on Saturday and Sunday closest to this date each year.

### Laylat al-Qadr

Sat., Apr. 6, 2024

Tradition: Islam

The Night of Power or Destiny commemorates the first revelation of the Qur'an (the Islamic scriptures) to Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE.

### Eid al-Fitr ('Id al-Fitr)

Tue., Apr. 9 – Fri., Apr. 12, 2024

Tradition: Islam

Also known as the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. One of the two main Islamic festivals (the other is Eid al-Adha), this day celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting. It comes on the first day of the next lunar month, Shawal.

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## Support the University Chaplaincy

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

Give Today

## ABOUT US

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

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chaplaincy.tufts.edu | chaplaincy@tufts.edu | 617.627.3427



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