

Philosophy Religious Studies And Myth

Theorists Of Myth

Myth

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Myth is a genre of folklore consisting primarily of narratives that play a fundamental role in a society. For scholars, this is very different from the vernacular usage of the term "myth", referring to a belief that is not true, for the veracity of folklore is not a defining criterion of it being myth.

Myths are often endorsed by religious (when they are closely linked to religion or spirituality) and secular authorities. Many societies group their myths, legends, and history together, considering myths and legends to be factual accounts of their remote past. In particular, creation myths take place in a primordial age when the world had not achieved its later form. Origin myths explain how a society's customs, institutions, and taboos were established and sanctified. National myths are narratives...

The Myth of Disenchantment

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The Myth of Disenchantment: Magic, Modernity, and the Birth of the Human Sciences is a 2017 book by Jason Josephson Storm, professor of religion at Williams College. The book challenges mainstream sociological conceptions of disenchantment on both empirical and theoretical grounds. In making this argument, The Myth of Disenchantment uses intellectual historical methods to reinterpret several theorists of disenchantment, including James George Frazer, Max Weber, and the Frankfurt School.

The Myth of Disenchantment received largely positive reviews in academic journals, and scholars in a variety of subfields of religious studies have drawn on its arguments. The book also attracted interest in semi-popular and amateur venues, with Storm discussing some of its central arguments in web articles...

Christ myth theory

Paul's conception of Jesus as a heavenly figure was influenced by the Book of Enoch and its conception of the Messiah. Christ myth theorists generally reject

The Christ myth theory, also known as the Jesus myth theory, Jesus mythicism, or the Jesus ahistoricity theory, is the fringe view that the story of Jesus is a work of mythology with no historical substance. Alternatively, in terms given by Bart Ehrman paraphrasing Earl Doherty, it is the view that "the historical Jesus did not exist. Or if he did, he had virtually nothing to do with the founding of Christianity."

The mainstream scholarly consensus, developed in the three quests for the historical Jesus, holds that there was a historical Jesus of Nazareth who lived in first-century AD Roman Judea, but his baptism and crucifixion are the only facts of his life about which a broad consensus exists. Beyond that, mainstream scholars have no consensus about the historicity of other major aspects...

The Christ Myth

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The Christ Myth, first published in 1909, was a book by Arthur Drews on the Christ myth theory. Drews (1865–1935), along with Bruno Bauer (1809–1882) and Albert Kalthoff (1850–1906), is one of the three German pioneers of the denial of the existence of a historical Jesus.

Religious studies

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Religious studies, also known as religiology or the study of religion, is the study of religion from a historical or scientific perspective. There is no consensus on what qualifies as religion and its definition is highly contested. It describes, compares, interprets, and explains religion, emphasizing empirical, historically based, and cross-cultural perspectives.

While theology attempts to understand the transcendent or supernatural according to traditional religious accounts, religious studies takes a more scientific and objective approach, independent of any particular religious viewpoint. Religious studies thus draws upon multiple academic disciplines and methodologies including anthropology, sociology, psychology, philosophy, and history of religion.

Religious studies originated in 19th...

The Myth of the Twentieth Century

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The Myth of the Twentieth Century (German: Der Mythos des zwanzigsten Jahrhunderts) is an influential, pseudo-scientific, pseudo-historical book by Alfred Rosenberg, a Nazi theorist who was

one of the principal ideologues of the National-Socialist Party and editor of the National-socialist paper *Völkischer Beobachter*. Rosenberg was later convicted for crimes against humanity at the Nuremberg trials and executed in 1946.

In the book, Rosenberg contends that the Aryan race is the originator of ancient civilizations which later declined and fell due to inter-marriage with "lesser races". Holding what he considers Aryan civilizations to be the pinnacle of humanity, he blames Semitic influences for moral and social degradation, and holds that the State must ensure that "higher" races must rule...

Progress

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Progress is movement towards a perceived refined, improved, or otherwise desired state. It is central to the philosophy of progressivism, which interprets progress as the set of advancements in technology, science, and social organization efficiency – the latter being generally achieved through direct societal action, as in social enterprise or through activism, but being also attainable through natural sociocultural evolution – that progressivism holds all human societies should strive towards.

The concept of progress was introduced in the early-19th-century social theories, especially social evolution as described by Auguste Comte and Herbert Spencer. It was present in the Enlightenment's philosophies of history. As a goal, social progress has been advocated by varying realms of political...

Jason Josephson Storm

from 1600 to the present, and theory in religious studies. His more recent work has discussed disenchantment and philosophy of social science. Storm has

Jason Ānanda Josephson Storm (né Josephson) is an American academic, philosopher, social scientist, and author. He is currently Professor in the Department of Religion and chair in Science and Technology Studies at Williams College. He also holds affiliated positions in Asian studies and Comparative Literature at Williams College. Storm's research focuses on Japanese religions, European intellectual history from 1600 to the present, and theory in religious studies. His more recent work has discussed disenchantment and philosophy of social science.

Storm has written three books and over thirty academic essays in English. He has also published articles in French and Japanese, and translated academic essays and primary sources from Japanese to English. His first book, *The Invention of Religion...*

Absurdism

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Absurdism is the philosophical theory that the universe is irrational and meaningless. It states that trying to find meaning leads people into conflict with a seemingly meaningless world. This conflict can be between rational humanity and an irrational universe, between intention and outcome, or between subjective assessment and objective worth, but the precise definition of the term is disputed. Absurdism claims that, due to one or more of these conflicts, existence as a whole is absurd. It differs in this regard from the less global thesis that some particular situations, persons, or phases in life are absurd.

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Women in philosophy

still hews to the myth that genius is tied to gender." According to Saul, philosophy, the oldest of the humanities, is also the malest (and the whitest).

Women have made significant contributions to philosophy throughout the history of the discipline. Ancient examples of female philosophers include Maitreyi (1000 BCE), Gargi Vachaknavi (700 BCE), Hipparchia of Maroneia (active c. 325 BCE) and Arete of Cyrene (active 5th-4th centuries BCE). Some women philosophers were accepted during the medieval and modern eras, but none became part of the Western canon until the 20th and 21st century, when some sources began to accept philosophers like Simone Weil, Susanne Langer, G.E.M. Anscombe, Hannah Arendt, and Simone de Beauvoir into the canon.

Despite women participating in philosophy throughout history, there exists a gender imbalance in academic philosophy. This can be attributed to implicit biases against women. Women have had to overcome workplace...

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