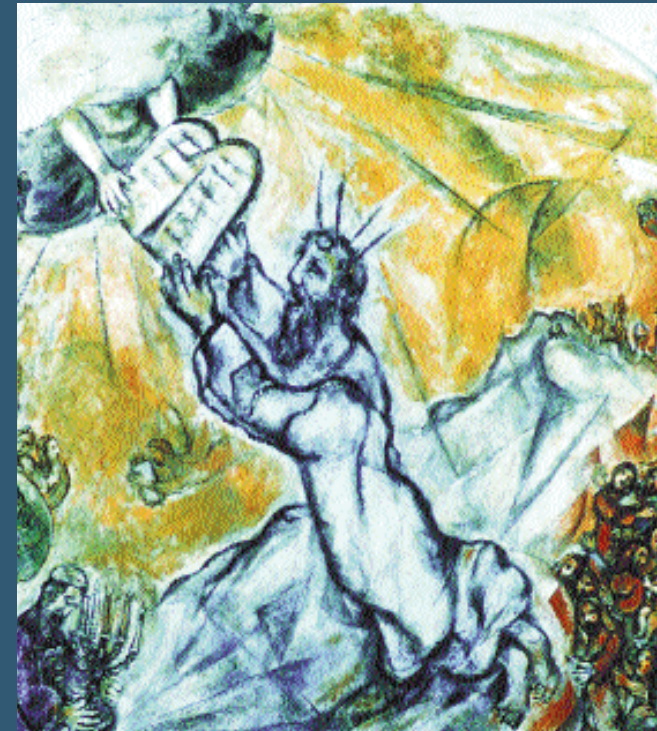


The Seminar on Religion and World Civilization is a program of the Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University, promoting understanding of interfaith and intercultural relations through discussion of religious issues in global perspective.

The Center for Faith and Vocation gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Lilly Endowment, Inc.

*The Butler University Seminar on  
Religion and World Civilization presents*

# Religion and Law at Home and Abroad



Marc Chagall, *Moses Receiving the Tablets of the Law* (1958-60)  
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Four public seminars  
Sept. 16 and Oct. 21, 2003  
Jan. 27 and Feb. 17, 2004

*Seminars meet from 7-9 p.m. in the  
Krannert Room, Clowes Memorial Hall, on the  
campus of Butler University.*

## Funding Faith

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2003

An expert panel discusses some of the issues at stake in practices and proposals involving the use of public resources to support faith-based social programs. Does “funding faith” undermine the First Amendment? Does it dishonor distinctive faith commitments? Does excluding faith-based groups from competition for government money constitute discrimination? More generally, what should be the rules of engagement for religion in American public life?

### Panelists

**Mr. Kenneth J. Falk**

Indiana Civil Liberties Union

**Ms. Abigail L. Kuzma**

Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, Indianapolis

**Professor Daniel O. Conkle**

Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington

## Capital Punishment in Global Perspective

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2003

A discussion of capital punishment as an issue shaping contemporary global civilization. Where is capital punishment practiced in today's world?

Where has it been abolished? Where is it being contested? What is the role of religious communities in the world-wide assessment of capital punishment?

### Speaker

**Dr. Zvi Ben-Dor**

Boston University

A native of Israel, Dr. Ben-Dor is a historian who studies Islamic and Chinese civilization.

### Respondents:

**Judge David Shaheed**

Indianapolis

**Sister Barbara Sheehan**

Sisters of Providence, St. Mary of the Woods,  
and the Association of Chicago Theological Schools

## Sharia and Contemporary Civilization

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2004

What is motivating the promotion of *sharia* (Islamic religious law) as a system of public law in parts of the Muslim world today? Where is the civil establishment of *sharia* being contested by Muslims? Can *sharia* be reconciled with international human rights norms? From a Muslim perspective what is the inherent value of *sharia*?

### Speaker

**Dr. Riffat Hassan**

University of Louisville

Dr. Hassan is a Muslim woman and a prominent American scholar of Islam.

### Respondent

**Dr. Kevin Jaques**

Indiana University

## The Ten Commandments and American Civilization

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2004

A discussion of the Ten Commandments in the light of contemporary religious and secular debates in America. Are the Ten Commandments an enduring foundation of law? An icon of the status quo? What is the relevance of this monument of ancient religious law to contemporary civilization?

### Speaker

**Mr. Randy R. Merritt**

Los Angeles

Mr. Merritt is a practicing attorney and a scholar of biblical and ancient Near Eastern law.

### Respondent

**Dr. Dennis C. Sasso**

Senior Rabbi

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck

Indianapolis

## About the Center for Faith and Vocation

The Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University gives students space to reflect on faith and spirituality during their time at Butler. Its mission is to encourage and challenge students to think about how they are being called to make a difference in the world.

Launched in January 2003, the center is one of nearly 80 projects at colleges and universities nationwide that are elevating the role of religion and spirituality on campus through an initiative of Lilly Endowment, Inc.

The Seminar on Religion and World Civilization is part of the Center for Faith and Vocation's programs honoring the religious and spiritual traditions of Butler students, faculty and staff and the Indianapolis community.

We welcome your thoughts about the seminar and how Butler can nurture the spiritual commitments of its students as they prepare to make the world a better place.

### Contact:

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All seminars meet from 7–9 p.m. in the Krannert Room, Clowes Memorial Hall, on the campus of Butler University, 46th Street and Sunset Avenue, Indianapolis. An informal reception follows each seminar. The seminars are free and open to the public. No reservation necessary.