Rabbi Meyer & Dorothy Kripke Center for The Study of Religion & Society

The Kripke Center is dedicated to facilitating scholarly activity in the areas of religion and society. Special attention is given to promoting understanding between and among faith communities, including especially Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The Kripke Center’s primary audience is the academic community, but its scholarship and services are available to all who seek them. The Center is named in honor of Rabbi Myer and Dorothy Kripke.

About the Center

The Center for the Study of Religion and Society was founded by Creighton University in 1988. It was subsequently endowed by Rabbi Myer and Dorothy Kripke, and renamed in 2005 to acknowledge Rabbi Kripke’s generosity. Rabbi Kripke is the Rabbi Emeritus of Beth El Synagogue in Omaha, where he served for twenty-nine years until his retirement in 1975. He has distinguished himself as a spiritual leader, an interpreter of the Hebrew Bible, a spokesperson for Jewish causes, and an explainer of things Jewish to non-Jews. Long into his retirement years, Rabbi Kripke served as an adjunct professor in Creighton’s Theology Department, regularly teaching courses in Judaism and Hebrew Bible. In 2000, Creighton University recognized Rabbi Kripke’s many achievements by awarding him the degree Doctor of Humane Letters honoris causa.

Faculty and Programs

The Kripke Center consist of a director and numerous faculty associates from the departments of Anthropology, Classical and Near Eastern Studies, English, Fine Arts, History, Law, Pharmacy, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Theology. Each of the faculty associates works in the area of religion and society. Although their primary appointments reside in academic departments, they have committed their expertise, interests, and skills to the collaborative work of the center. Indeed, their work makes up the work of the center. They support the mission of the Center through research, teaching, and service, collaborate with and support fellow associates, and participate in the events of the center. The Kripke Center supports their work through research grants and support of individual and collaborative projects.

Journal of Religion & Society

The Kripke Center publishes the Journal of Religion & Society, an academic, electronic journal now in its fourteenth year of publication. This journal has attracted prominent scholars from around the nation and across the globe, further enhancing the reputation of the center.

The Kripke Center also supports several academic and educational public programs. The center sponsors symposia to facilitate dialogue and scholarship within the Creighton and larger academic community and to present their learning to the public.

The Kripke Center is directed by: Ronald A. Simkins, Ph.D. rsmkns@creighton.edu (402) 280-2504

Sponsored by the Creighton University Jesuit Community, in association with the Degelman Center for Ignatian Spirituality.