

Religions of The World Syllabus

REL2300, 2019 summer, June 24 - July 26

Course & Faculty Information

Lecturer: TBA

E-mail: TBA

Time: Monday through Friday (1.8 contact hours each day)

Contact hour: 45 hours

Credit: 3

Office hours: By Appointment

Course Description & Objective

The course introduces students to some of the major religious traditions of the world: Hinduism, Buddhism, and East Asian religious traditions, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Caribbean religions. Religious belief is playing a greater role in everyday life and major events. The class will focus on the differences religions have between each other and their commonalities. As we imagine how different religious traditions help people make sense of their lives, then, we will examine the ways in which the lives of others help us make sense of our own, as well.

Through out the semester the class will focus mainly on four main areas for each religious tradition, but will not be constrained to these either.

They include:

- ↪ Divine Presence
- ↪ Moral Virtues
- ↪ Rituals
- ↪ Sacred texts

Textbook. Information:

A Concise Introduction to World Religions 2nd edition

Willard Gurdon Oxtoby, Alan F. Segal

Oxford University Press

Academic Honesty: This course adheres to all policies concerning academic honesty and plagiarism described in the current SSC Catalogue. A student who violates the conditions stated in the catalogue would be subject to receiving a grade of "F" in the course and possible further academic disciplinary action. **All written material that the student is required to complete will be reviewed by**

www.turnitin.com to assure the integrity of the assignment. Each student will be required to upload weekly essays to the website. **Students must be registered to turnitin.com by the second-class session.**

Class Decorum: I expect every student to show the highest level of respect and courtesy to all the students during class discussions. No type of distraction will be accepted. That includes cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, etc. If you feel that you need this equipment with you in the class, they must be on silent. No Texting during official class time. Using a laptop to take notes is allowed as long as the student is responsible enough to not use it for anything else during class. Students are asked to wait until the class session is officially over before packing up their personal items, since doing this during class is a distraction to other students and is a sign of disrespect to the speaker. Students are not to record the instructor without permission.

Late assignments: Students who miss an assignment must contact the professor within 24 hours before the missed assignment in order to qualify for a make-up opportunity. Late assignments will be due at 2:00pm within 3 weekdays following the missed assignment date. Any late assignments will lose a value of 5 points per day from the original due date.

Incompletes: Incompletes are almost never given out except in the case of extreme documented emergencies, and that in most instances failure to do the work will result in a zero. In the case that an incomplete is given, a written "contract" with the student explaining exactly and specifically what needs to be made up and by when will be established.

Value of Assignments:	Points:
Attendance (5 points x 25 classes)	125
Sacred text Study	125
Reflection Papers	350
<u>Reading/ lecture quizzes</u>	<u>300</u>
<u>Final paper</u>	<u>100</u>
TOTAL:	1000

Grading Scale:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = Below 60%

What will you be graded on?

Attendance: You must be in class your success depends on it not only does it count for your grade but you will miss important information you need to be successful on the quizzes and reading assignments.

Sacred Text Study: You will be required to read the sacred texts of many religions and you will be given a writing assignment based on those readings.

Reflection Papers: Reflection papers will be assigned based on the readings and lectures and will require you to reflect and respond to what you have learned based on a series of questions assigned by the instructor.

Reading and lecture quizzes: These are short quizzes given to help me make sure you understand the material they will be short 15 minute quizzes assigned for each religion studied.

Final Paper: you will be required to write a research paper that you will work on throughout the semester. the paper will focus on one religious ritual and will cover various aspects of the ritual. Further instructions will be given during in class.

This course focuses on a collaborative process of learning; our own thoughts grow and change through conversation with others.

Your attendance at, preparation for, and participation in each class is my MINIMUM expectation for your contribution. Since each participant plays a crucial role, I expect you to be in class every week unless you have contacted me BEFOREHAND explaining why you cannot attend. You can email me if life confronts you with more pressing concerns than preparing for or attending this course; in such cases, you will find me very understanding.

Any student who is absent from 10% of the scheduled class time on a repeated basis, is subject to being dropped from the course. If a student leaves class early without a proper excuse, they will have points deducted from their attendance grade. Any information that the student misses for the reflection papers in his/her absence must be researched in other means. Any disruption in class will result in the student losing points for that day.

To be adequately prepared for each class, you should:

- Complete the reading;
- Highlight passages of particular interest or difficulty;
- Highlight any questions that you have and/or any issues that you find particularly intriguing or confusing.

The structure of this course is based on principles that focus on respect and giving everyone a chance to express their opinions. My prior education enables me to assist you in learning about and learning from the traditions examined in this course, but it does NOT make me the "authority".

Some suggestions

- Identify especially intriguing or challenging ideas and try to push them further.
- Draw connections between different ideas
- Offer alternative interpretations that might help us enrich our understanding of the idea or issue at hand.

Course Outline:

Please note that this outline is meant to give an overview of the major concepts this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week 1

1 Welcome, Introductions, Review of Syllabus

1 Review What is Religion

1 Primal Religions

1 Hinduism

1 Hinduism

Week 2

1 Buddhism

1 Buddhism

1 Confucianism/Taoism

1 Confucianism/Taoism

1 Discussion Asian Religions

Week 3

1 Judaism

1 Judaism

1 Christianity

1 Christianity

1 Islam

Week 4

1 Islam

1 Discussion Abrahamic traditions

1 Voodoo

1 Voodoo

1 Santeria

Week 5

1 Santeria



I Discussion Caribbean religions I
paper presentations
I paper presentations
I Discussion & Evaluation

Academic Integrity

As members of the Seminole State College of Florida community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities.

Academic dishonesty, such as cheating of any kind on examinations, course assignments or projects, plagiarism, misrepresentation and the unauthorized possession of examinations or other course-related materials, is prohibited.

Plagiarism is unacceptable to the college community. Academic work that is submitted by students is assumed to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they are expected to acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized.

Students who share their work for the purpose of cheating on class assignments or tests are subject to the same penalties as the student who commits the act of cheating.

When cheating or plagiarism has occurred, instructors may take academic action that ranges from denial of credit for the assignment or a grade of "F" on a specific assignment, examination or project, to the assignment of a grade of "F" for the course. Students may also be subject to further sanctions imposed by the judicial officer, such as disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from the College.

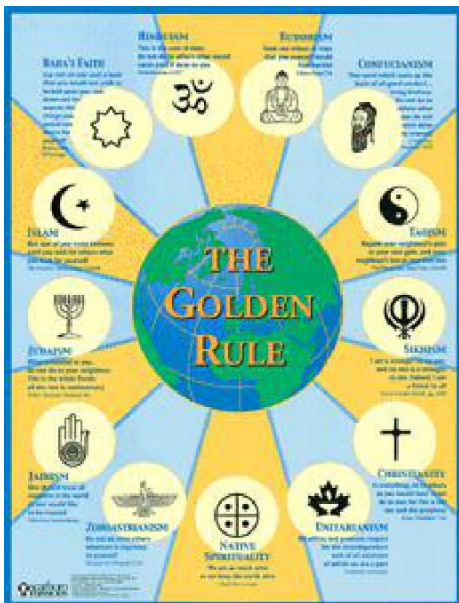
NOTE: THE PROFESSOR HAS THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ANY ELEMENT WITHIN THE SYLLABUS IF DEEMED NECESSARY.

HUM 2931

Selected Studies in Humanities

Religions of the World

“The greatest enemy of knowledge is NOT ignorance; it is the illusion of knowledge.”
Stephen Hawking



Instructor: TBA
Email: TBA
Office Hours: Daily after Class
Term: Summer 2019

Required Textbook:
There are no textbooks required for this course.

Course Objective:

The course introduces students to some of the major religious traditions of the world: Hinduism, Buddhism, and East Asian religious traditions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Religious belief is playing a greater role in everyday life and major events. The class will focus on the differences religions have between each other and their commonalities. As we imagine how different religious traditions help people make sense of their lives, then, we will examine the ways in which the lives of others help us make sense of our own, as well.

The course is to be taken in collaboration with the main Religions of the World class

Rules and Regulations:

Academic Honesty: This course adheres to all policies concerning academic honesty and plagiarism described in the current SSC Catalogue. A student who violates the conditions stated in the catalogue would be subject to receiving a grade of "F" in the course and

possible further academic disciplinary action. All written material that the student is required to complete will be reviewed by www.turnitin.com to assure the integrity of the assignment.

Class Decorum: I expect every student to show the highest level of respect and courtesy to all the students during class discussions. No type of distraction will be accepted. That includes cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, etc. If you feel that you need this equipment with you in the class, they must be on silent. If for any reason, such devices, especially cell phones go off in the class, you will be asked to turn them in and can pick them up at the following session. **No Texting during official class time.** Using a laptop to take notes is allowed as long as the student is responsible enough to not use it for anything else during class. Students are asked to wait until the class session is officially over before packing up their personal items, since doing this during class is a distraction to other students and is a sign of disrespect to the speaker.

Late assignments: Students who miss an assignment must contact the professor within 24 hours before the missed assignment in order to qualify for a make-up opportunity. Late assignments will be due at 2:00pm within 2 weekdays following the missed assignment date. Any late assignments will lose a value of 5 points per day from the original due date.

Incompletes: Incompletes are almost never given out except in the case of extreme documented emergencies, and that in most instances failure to do the work will result in a zero. In the case that an incomplete is given, a written "contract" with the student explaining exactly and specifically what needs to be made up and by when will be established. The "contract" will state that if the work is not made up within the first two weeks of the next term the work will be marked as a zero and the student risks by college policy receiving an F in the course.

Value of Assignments:

Points:

Attendance (5 points x 25 classes)

125

Independent Study

375

(Discussion Meetings 20%, Materials Collection

Report 10%, Web Analysis 20%, Presentation Outline

10%, Final Presentation 20%, Reflection Paper 20%)

TOTAL:

500

Grades:

A=90% - 100%

B=80 – 89%

C=70 – 79%

D=60 – 69%

F=59% & Below

What will you be graded on?

Independent Study Final Paper (Select Students)

The Short Description:

Students will be required to work on presenting a final paper to the professor that covers elements of interest on any subject that the student is interested in researching in detail.

The Details:

The Objective: To assess the process of learning about and from practitioners of different religious traditions in which the class has been engaged this semester.

The following is a list of potential topics that the student can focus on:

- **Prophets and founders of religious tradition**
- **Tenants and the belief system of a particular faith other than ones we discussed**
- **Religion and contemporary issues**

The Challenge: To articulate your topic in a manner that is both informed by your personal experience and yet sufficiently abstract and clearly argued to be relevant to a wider audience. This paper asks you to reflect upon the process of learning about and from "world religions"; your own experience can be a valuable resource, but you should structure your argument so as to highlight the ways in which your own experience and thought process illuminates, and enriches the ways in which we have been attempting to learn about—and learn from— "others."

The Method: Review of the material and issues covered in the course combined with careful self-reflection. In order to make your point more concretely, you should include AT LEAST three citations of passages covered in the course or other outside sources that you find especially illuminating, together with an explanation of their significance. Please use the MLA format for the reference page.

The Ideal Paper will ask and address questions such as: How (if at all) has your encounter with the topic transformed the way you view yourself and the world? Has it enriched or complicated your view? You might explore how your encounter with alternative perspectives on how to live may have altered/expanded your own angle of vision on the world and could/should do likewise for the perspectives of your readers.

IMPORTANT: You should make an "argument" in the paper—that is, your paper should be structured so as to present and explain your engagement with the topic and why it matters. Spell out the potential implications of your argument for your reader. (The paper should be 8-10 pages long, double spaced)

Class Presentations:

Each student will be required to give a presentation at the end of the semester that reflects the research and analysis from the final paper. The student will present elements of interest

that reflect items from class discussions and personal research that the student found worth identifying in detail.

Presentations will be scheduled on the last few sessions of the semester. The student is required to present a professional style presentation to the class and be comfortable and prepared to answer questions. A minimum of 10 minutes for each presentation is required.

NOTE: THE PROFESSOR HAS THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ANY ELEMENT WITHIN THE SYLLABUS IF DEEMED NECESSARY.

AGENDA FOR THE SEMESTER:

Turnitin.com Information

Class ID: 18197778

Password: goldenrule

WEEK #1:

Welcome, Introductions and Review of Syllabus

Discussion Meeting

WEEK #2:

Discussion Meeting

Materials collection report

WEEK #3:

Discussion Meeting

Web Analysis

WEEK #4:

Discussion Meeting

Presentation Outline

WEEK #5:

Final Presentation

Submit Reflection Paper

Evaluations and Summary

