Religion 150  Introduction to Major World Religions
3 credits
TR 10:00 to 11:15 AM in PALANA 213 (64466)
TR 1:00 to 2:15 PM in PALANA 213 (64467)

INSTRUCTOR: Christine Walters
OFFICE: PALANA TBA
OFFICE HOURS: TR 2:15 to 4:15 PM or by appointment
TELEPHONE: (808) 455-0402 (Leeward CC) EMAIL: cwalters@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2013

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
Introduction to the world’s major religions: Indigenous, Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Shinto, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Field trips may be required outside class time. WCC: FGC

GLOBAL MULTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVES FOCUS HALLMARKS
1. Provide students with a large-scale analysis of human development and change over time.
2. Analyze the development of human societies and their cultural traditions through time in different regions (including Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania) and using multiple perspectives.
3. Offer a broad, integrated analysis of cultural, economic, political, scientific, and/or social development that recognizes the diversity of human societies and their cultural traditions.
4. Examine processes of cross-cultural interaction and exchange that have linked the world's peoples through time while recognizing diversity.
5. Include at least one component on Hawaiian, Pacific, or Asian societies and their cultural traditions.
6. Engage students in the study and analysis of writings, narratives, texts, artifacts, and/or practices that represent the perspectives of different societies and cultural traditions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Identify the following elements or dimensions: origin, doctrines, ethics, sacred literature, important figures/founders, rituals, worship, and institutions for each of the world’s major religious traditions.

2. Identify the similarities and differences between two or more religions on the basis of the aforementioned dimensions.
3. Examine the relationship between religion and culture/society.

4. Question and think critically.

**COURSE TASKS**

1. Attendance is highly recommended. The exams will rely **heavily** on lecture material. If you miss class regularly, it will be detrimental to your success in this course.

2. Daily assigned readings are to be completed before class. Reading assignments will be posted on Laulima. Please be sure to check Laulima daily for announcements, as the instructor will also assign supplemental material to the in-class lectures such as videos to watch and interactive sites to visit.

3. There will be occasional quizzes on both the reading assignments and the material from lectures available via Laulima. You will be responsible for completing quizzes on quiz dates, as listed on the course schedule. Quizzes can be taken in advance of the quiz date with prior approval from the instructor. Missed quizzes cannot be made up, since they will be available online. Failure to complete a quiz will result in a zero grade.

4. In addition to the quizzes, there will be three exams, including the final. Attendance at all three exams is **mandatory**. If you know in advance that you will miss an exam, please contact the instructor to reschedule. If, for any unforeseen reason, you miss an exam, you must email the instructor immediately to reschedule, providing proof (and a very good explanation) for the absence. If a make-up exam is permitted by the instructor, the exam will be essay format.

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

**GRADE BREAKDOWN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td>Exam 3</td>
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**GRADE SCALE**

- A 100%-90%
- B 89%-80%
- C 79%-70%
- D 69%-60%
- F below 59%

**LEARNING RESOURCES**


**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health challenge that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Akoakoa 213 for more information.
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT
There is ZERO tolerance for plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty. Students charged with academic dishonesty will receive a Fail grade for the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change)
WEEK 1: Introduction to World Religions
August 26 – 30
T 8/27: Review of course syllabus/Introduction to course content
   Discussion: rules/parameters for in-class discussions
R 8/29: QUIZ 1
   Discussion: definition(s) of Religion
   Academic Institutions/Religious Institutions
   Discussion: questions/sources for study

WEEK 2: Academic vs. Religious Study of Religion
September 2 – 6
T 9/3: QUIZ 2
   Discussion: Academic vs. Religious Studies of Religion; words to avoid
R 9/5: Indigenous Religions: a summary of themes

WEEK 3: Indigenous Religions
September 9 – 13
T 9/10: Indigenous case study: Hawaiian Religion
R 9/12: QUIZ 3
   Discussion: categories, symbols, and expressions shared by religions
   Review for EXAM 1

WEEK 4: Hinduism
September 16 – 20
R 9/19: Hinduism, Indus valley civilization, Vedic context, Upanishads, Foundational worldview
   Discussion: the Hindu worldview “web”

WEEK 5: Hinduism
September 23 – 27
T 10/1: Hinduism, Gods and Epics, contemporary rituals and beliefs
R 10/3: Hinduism, Hinduism today

WEEK 6: Buddhism
September 30 – October 4
T 10/1: Buddhism, The Buddha’s story, foundational worldview/teachings
R 10/3: Buddhism, Early and Later beliefs: Theravada/Mahayana, Transmission of Buddhism
   Demonstration: Making a rose disappear

WEEK 7: Buddhism/Daoism/Shinto
October 7 – 11
T 10/8: QUIZ 5
   Buddhism, Interaction with Daoism and Shinto, Sri Lanka, Thailand, China, Japan, USA
   Review for EXAM 2, Discussion: Continuity and Discontinuity Hinduism and Buddhism
R 10/10: EXAM 2 – Hinduism and Buddhism
WEEK 8: Judaism
October 14 – 18
T 10/15: Judaism, Historical context/“Abrahamic” Religion, First Temple Period
R 10/17: Judaism, Second Temple Period, Holocaust

WEEK 9: Judaism/Christianity
October 21 – 25
T 10/22: Judaism, Divisions within modern Judaism, Contemporary rituals and practices
R 10/24: QUIZ 6
  Judaism, Contemporary holidays
  Christianity, Intro to Christianity as a ‘world religion’

WEEK 10: Christianity
October 28 – November 1
T 10/29: Christianity, Da Jesus Story, early Christian church
R 10/31: Christianity, early Christian church, the church divides: Great schism

WEEK 11: Christianity
November 4 – 8
T 11/5: QUIZ 7
  Christianity, Protestant reformation, divisions: Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant
R 11/7: Christianity, Contemporary rituals and beliefs

WEEK 12: Christianity
November 11 – 15
T 11/12: Christianity, Contemporary holidays
R 11/14: QUIZ 8
  Christianity, American Christianity, international politics

WEEK 13: Islam
November 18 – 22
T 11/19: Islam, Intro to Islam as a ‘world religion’
R 11/21: Islam, the Prophet’s story, Foundational teachings

WEEK 14: Islam
November 25 – 29
T 11/26: Islam, Internal divisions: Sunni/Shi’a split
R 11/28: NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING DAY

WEEK 15: Review of Abrahamic Religions
December 2 – 6
T 12/3: Islam, The Five Practices/Pillars
R 12/5: Islam, Contemporary holidays, Contemporary Islam

WEEK 16: Review of Abrahamic Religions
December 9 – 13
T 12/10: QUIZ 9
  Islam, Contemporary Islam and international politics
R 12/12: QUIZ 10
  Discussion: Abrahamic Religions; final exam review and question session

FINAL EXAM:
CRN # 64466: Tuesday, December 17th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in PALANA 213
CRN # 64467: Tuesday, December 17th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in PALANA 213