

Religion 150: Introduction to Major World Religions

3 credits

TR 10:00-11:15am

INSTRUCTOR:	Professor Sarah Hadmack
OFFICE:	Palanakila 140
OFFICE HOURS:	TR 8:45-9:50am
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EFFECTIVE DATE:	Fall 2015

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. 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.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

This course is structured around the following methods of instruction:

- Higher order thinking: class time will be devoted mainly to discussion and activities, both of which focus on problem-solving, analysis, evaluation, and critical and creative thinking (the top parts of the pyramid.) Therefore, reading, understanding, and identifying the major terms and ideas for each religious tradition must be done at home while reading the textbook and the professor's notes.
- Collaborative learning: this course consists of many in-class group activities (see examples under 'Course Tasks'). Part of the philosophy behind this is that studies have shown that we learn more when exposed to diverse viewpoints, we challenge ourselves when we have to articulate and sometimes defend our knowledge, and group activities develop a sense of community and responsibility for one another. Three heads are better than one!
- Flip the classroom: this course 'flips' the traditional educational model in that you will receive the professor's notes to read at home and will complete assignments (called 'homework' in other courses) in class. The rationale behind this concept is that some assignments are better completed in class where the instructor can advise the student, answer questions as they arise, and facilitate student success.



Collaborative learning is when students work in groups to solve a problem, create a product, and/or consider the meaning of an issue.



COURSE TASKS

The course will be centered on the following tasks, which serve as both learning and assessment tools.

Workbook Notes:

Take notes in the workbook (*The Student's Guide to the Study of World Religions 3rd Edition*) while reading the textbook (*Think: Religion*) and the Professor's Notes. The professor's notes are available under the 'Resources' link on Laulima. Most people learn and remember very little from merely reading. However, writing down the main points of what you read greatly increases learning and your ability to remember the information. Therefore, it is imperative to your academic success that you write down the notes in your workbook. Your workbook serves as an organizational tool, both for in class materials and textbook readings.

- Students will receive a check-plus (full credit), check (partial credit), or check-minus (no credit) on their workbook notes.
- You will be called on **randomly** at the **start** of certain class days in which workbook notes are due. Workbook notes are checked during the **first five minutes of class**. If your name was called and you were absent or late, you will receive a check-minus for the workbook notes unless you had emailed or called me **prior** to the start of class to tell me you couldn't make it that day.
- Please answer the review questions at the back of each chapter of your workbook. However, you do not need to answer the discussion questions in the workbook at home; they will be covered in class.
- The answers to the review questions come from the Professor's Notes and the textbook (*Think: Religion*). Simply 'googling' for the answers is not acceptable because 1) it will either provide you with an oversimplified answer that misses the greater context (and thereby understanding!) that the Professor's Notes and textbook provide you with (such as the case with question 5 of the Hinduism review questions- Krishna is actually a form of which Hindu god?) or 2) it will provide you with too much information and it will be difficult to ascertain the most essential part (such as would be the case if you googled question 6 of the Hinduism review questions- What is the caste system and where did it come from?). Therefore, use the Professor's Notes and the textbook to answer the review questions. After that, feel free to conduct further research in any manner you like!
- Please be advised that 'workbook checks' cannot be made up regardless of reason.

Class Participation:

Complete a variety of in-class activities including think logs, card swaps, quizzes, webs, sentence stems, movers and shakers, pair square, popcorn reading, role cards, role play, round table, silent Socratic dialogue, toss a 'test,' crossword puzzles, Venn diagrams, word searches, art symbolism identification, game shows, etc.

- These assignments enhance analysis, synthesis, and critical thinking skills. They also enable students to reflect on themes in class and comprehend the topics in a more sophisticated (and fun!) manner.
- Many of these activities will be completed in groups typically consisting of 3-4 members. The instructor acknowledges that not all students feel comfortable

performing in front of the class. Students will not have to participate in all of the activities. For example, role-playing and popcorn reading calls on volunteers and is not a requirement in order to pass the class.

- For some of these in-class activities you will receive detailed feedback. For other assignments you may only receive a check plus mark indicating full credit, a check mark indicating partial credit, or a check minus indicating no credit.
- Since group assignments require being present for class, some of these assignments cannot be made up, regardless of reason, if class is missed. It is the student's responsibility to see the professor to get missed material.

Exams:

Take three (3) exams. Exams will be based on material covered in class and the course readings.

- Exam 1 covers Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism. Exam 1 rewards collaborative learning since students will be allowed to work in groups while taking this exam.
- Exam 2 covers Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and East Asian Buddhism. Exam 2 rewards resourcefulness since students will be allowed a note card while taking this exam.
- Exam 3 covers Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Exam 3 rewards memorization and is a traditional exam.

Quizzes

- Complete timed quizzes on Lulima under the 'Assignments, Tests, and Surveys' link. You may use your notes and textbook during the timed quizzes. Before taking any of the quizzes, please be sure that you've already read all notes and textbook chapters corresponding to that quiz. For example, before taking the Hinduism quiz, first read the professor's Hinduism notes and chapters 3 and 4 of your textbook. Follow the class schedule on this syllabus to know when to take each quiz.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Grades will be based on the following:

-Workbook Notes	25%
-Quizzes.....	20%
-Class Participation as measured by Class Activities	25%
-Three Exams (10% each)	30%
	100%

Grades available:

A = 90% -100%

B = 80% -89%

C = 70% -79%

D = 60% -69%

F = 59% and below

N= The 'N' grade indicates that the student has worked conscientiously, attended regularly, finished all work, fulfilled course responsibilities, and has made measurable progress. However, either the student has not achieved the minimal student learning outcomes and is not prepared to succeed at the next level, or the student has made consistent progress in class but is unable to

complete the class due to extenuating circumstances, such as major health, personal, or family emergencies.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Both of the texts below are available on reserve at the WCC library and for purchase at the WCC bookstore. Please bring these materials to every class:

 *Think: Religion* by Roy Robson (the 1st or 2nd edition)

 *The Student's Guide to the Study of World Religions* 3rd edition by Sarah Hadmack

CLASS SCHEDULE*

*Note:

1. All readings listed as “Notes” in the schedule can be accessed on Laulima through the ‘Resources’ link
2. Please complete the tasks **in the order in which they are listed**.
3. Class schedule is subject to change at professor’s discretion. Students will be notified of any changes in class.

DATE	CLASS TOPICS & ACTIVITIES	HOMEWORK TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE THIS CLASS PERIOD
T 8/25	Welcome to the class! 1. Religion Survey 2. What is religion? 3. Introduction to the course	Please purchase your texts today.
R 8/27	1. The Study of Religion: Thinking and Talking about Religion 2. Indigenous Religions	1. Introduction Notes 2. Wkbk pp. 5-9 3. Chs. 1 and 2 of <i>Think</i> 4. Syllabus Quiz
T 9/1	Hinduism	1. Hinduism Notes 2. Ch. 3 of <i>Think</i> 3. Wkbk 15-23 (as much as you can, some parts will be filled in next week after reading Ch. 4 and watching the film)
R 9/3	1. Hinduism discussion 2. Activity: Hinduism Web	1. Ch. 4 of <i>Think</i> 2. Wkbk 15-23 (as much as you can, some parts will be filled in next week after watching the film)
T 9/8	<i>Shortcut to Nirvana</i> film	1. Hinduism Quiz 2. Complete the Hinduism Web
R 9/10	Jainism	1. Jainism Notes 2. Wkbk 28-31 3. Jainism textbook reading PDF (in the “Resources” link, click on “Textbook Readings”)
T 9/15	Jainism discussion	1. Jainism Quiz 2. Reread your syllabus.

R 9/17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Buddhism 2. Activity: Life and Teachings of the Buddha Game Show 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Buddhism Notes 2. Wkbk 34- top of 41 (as much as you can, some parts will be completed later after reading Ch. 6) 3. Ch. 5 of <i>Think</i>
T 9/22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indian Buddhism discussion 2. Activity: Jainism and Indian Buddhism cross word puzzle 3. Sikhism 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ch. 6 of <i>Think</i> 2. Complete Wkbk 34- top of 41 3. Indian Buddhism Quiz
R 9/24	Sikhism discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sikhism Notes 2. Sikhism textbook reading PDF (in the "Resources" link, click on "Textbook Readings") 3. Wkbk 44-48
T 9/29	Review for Exam 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sikhism Quiz 2. Study your notes on Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism
R 10/1	Exam 1	Study your notes on Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism
T 10/6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity: Life and Teaching of Laozi Game Show 2. Daoism discussion 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daoism Notes 2. Chs. 7 and 8 of <i>Think</i> 3. Wkbk 51-54
R 10/8	Confucianism discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daoism Quiz 2. Confucianism Notes 3. Wkbk 57-61
T 10/13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity: Daoism and Confucianism Scriptural Passage Identifications 2. Shinto 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confucianism Quiz 2. Shinto Notes 3. Wkbk 65- top of 69 (as much as you can, some parts will be filled in after the reading for Thursday's class)
R 10/15	Shinto discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shinto textbook reading PDF (in the "Resources" link, click on "Textbook Readings") 2. Wkbk 65- top of 69
T 10/20	Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shinto Quiz 2. Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism Notes 3. Wkbk 71- top of 76
R 10/22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity: Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism Sectarian slogan/jingle 2. Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism discussion 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism Quiz
T 10/27	Review for Exam 2	Study your notes on Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism
R 10/29	Exam 2	Study your notes on Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism

T 11/3	Zoroastrianism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoroastrianism Notes 2. Zoroastrianism textbook reading PDF (in the “Resources” link, click on “Textbook Readings”) 3. Wbk 79- top of 83
R 11/5	Judaism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoroastrianism Quiz 2. Judaism Notes 3. Chs. 9 & 10 of <i>Think</i> 4. Wbk 85- top of 94
T 11/10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Judaism discussion 2. Activity: Judaism Movers and Shakers 	
R 11/12	<i>Genocide</i> film	
T 11/17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity: Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ Game Show 2. Christianity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Judaism Quiz 2. Christianity Notes 3. Chs. 11 and 12 of <i>Think</i> 4. Wbk 97- top of 107
R 11/19	Christianity	
T 11/24	Christianity discussion	1. Christianity Quiz
R 11/26	HAPPY THANKSGIVING- NO CLASSES	
T 12/1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity: Life of Muhammad Puzzle Game 2. Islam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Islam Notes 2. Chs. 13 and 14 of <i>Think</i> 1. Wbk 111-117
R 12/3	Islam discussion	
T 12/8	<i>Inside Mecca</i> film	
R 12/10	Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Islam Quiz 2. Study your notes on Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
Finals Week	Exam 3	Study your notes on Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes, arrive on time, and remain for the entire class period. Students who miss class are responsible for material covered in their absence. Consult with peers or the instructor to cover what you missed. For every three classes missed, the final grade is lowered by one letter grade.

Make-up Policy:

Students are provided with **three ‘No Questions Asked’ (NQA) coupons** that enable them to turn in an activity or make up an quiz, exam, or absence **up to one week past the due date**. Coupons cannot be applied to the Workbook Notes. Without the NQA coupon, late work will not be accepted. Coupons may not be shared or replicated. Unused coupons will be counted toward extra credit.

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to act with personal integrity, to respect other students' opinions and property, and to help create an academic environment in which discussion is encouraged. Students are expected not to engage or tolerate acts of plagiarism, cheating, copying, fabrication of citations, or other acts of academic dishonesty. Students charged with academic dishonesty face serious consequences that range from an F grade for the assignment to a F grade for the course.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit can be earned by turning in responses to the Think Log prompts. The prompts can be found on pp.121-124 of the workbook (*The Student's Guide to the Study of World Religions*). They are also embedded in the Professor's Notes by religious tradition. Think Logs are essentially journal prompts. There are no right or wrong responses to Think Log prompts. Think Logs are used to encourage critical thinking, self-analysis, and to reflect on the topics covered in this course. You can earn the full amount of extra credit by typing your responses to six of the Think Log prompts. Each Think Log response should be approximately one full typed page, double-spaced. No more than two extra credit papers per student will be accepted during the last two weeks of classes. All extra credit must be received by Friday December 11, 2015.

Cell Phones:

Kindly do not answer phone calls, text message, or play games on your cell phone during class. The professor urges you to turn off your cell phone during class. The consequence for cell phone use is _____ (students will vote on a policy during the first week of classes).

Disabilities Accommodation:

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WILL HELP YOU IN THIS CLASS

1. Keep up with the readings and note taking! Since the course is set up to discuss the readings in class, if you do not read then you will feel completely lost in class and not have an enriching educational experience. Additionally, by doing the readings and note taking, you will be well prepared for the quizzes and exams.
2. Stay organized. Use a planner! Put important deadlines for assignments from all your courses syllabi into the planner. Create a weekly schedule with your school and work hours. Schedule in blocks of time when you plan to study, read, and complete homework assignments.
3. Familiarize yourself with Lualima during the first week. You will read my notes (in 'Resources') and take quizzes (in 'Assignments, Tests, and Surveys') almost every week. Additionally you can keep track of your course grade by opening 'Gradebook.'
4. Ask questions if you don't understand. Tell me to slow down if I am going too fast. Let me know if you're having any problems. I am here to help you ☺ Let me know how I can make this the best educational experience for you!

5. See me if you need additional help. In addition to my office hours, you can find me at the Writing Center inside the library on Mondays from 9-12, Tuesdays 11:45am-2:30pm, and Thursdays 11:45am-2:30pm.
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