

## Religion 150: Introduction to Major World Religions

3 credits

R 1:00-2:15pm

**INSTRUCTOR:** Professor Sarah Hadmack  
**OFFICE:** Palanakila 140  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 9:00-10:00am; 1:15-2:15pm  
Tuesdays 12:00-1:00pm  
Wednesdays 1:15-2:15pm  
and by appointment  
**EMAIL:** minnis@hawaii.edu  
**TELEPHONE:** 236-9140  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Fall 2016

### 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



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



student success.

## ONLINE SUPPORT

This course is a hybrid course meaning that half of the course is online and half is face-to-face. For any online problems you encounter, please contact the following:

### Computer Support from Windward CC

- General questions- email [wcc-help@hawaii.edu](mailto:wcc-help@hawaii.edu) or call 235-7314

### Computer Support from the UH System

- Email [help@hawaii.edu](mailto:help@hawaii.edu) or call 956-8883
- Information Technology Services <http://www.hawaii.edu/its/>

### Course Support from Windward CC

- Diane Sakai, Reference Desk Librarian- email [wccref@hawaii.edu](mailto:wccref@hawaii.edu) or call 235-7338
- Ann Lemke, Counselor- email [lemke@hawaii.edu](mailto:lemke@hawaii.edu) or call 235-7448

## COURSE TASKS

As a hybrid course you will complete some course tasks outside of class time through Laulima, such as reading the professor's notes, reading the textbook, watching films, and taking quizzes. Other course tasks will be completed in class, such as discussion and activities.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*) while reading the professor's notes and the textbook (*Think: Religion*). 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.

- 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.
- Students will receive a check-plus (full credit), check (partial credit), or check-minus (no credit) on their workbook notes.
- 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!
- You most likely will only be checked four times during the semester. Considering that workbook notes constitute 20% of your course grade, it is extremely important to complete the assigned pages and to arrive in class on time. Please be advised that workbook notes cannot be made up, regardless of reason.

#### Quizzes:

Complete timed quizzes on Laulima 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 and the deadlines on the quizzes in the 'Assignments, Tests, and Surveys' link to know when to take each quiz.

#### Class Participation:

Complete a variety of in-class activities including card swaps, 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 you 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. I acknowledge that not all students feel comfortable performing in front of the class. You 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 mark 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 your responsibility to see the professor to get missed material.

#### Exams:

Complete the three exams. Exams will be based on material covered in class and the

course readings. Exams will be taken at the Testing Center inside the library. You are allowed to use a 4x6 note card during the exams.

- Exam 1 covers Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism.
- Exam 2 covers Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and East Asian Buddhism.
- Exam 3 covers Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

## ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

### Grades will be based on the following:

-Workbook Notes.....	20%
-Quizzes.....	25%
-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 both of these books to every class:

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

 *The Student's Guide to the Study of World Religions* 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 on the homepage.
2. Please complete the tasks **in the order in which they are listed.**
3. Class schedule is subject to change. All changes will be announced in class.

8/25

1. Welcome to the class!
2. Religion Survey
3. Syllabus and introduction to the course

Before 9/1

1. READ: Introduction Notes  
COMPLETE: Wkbk 5- top of 9

2. READ: Chs. 1 & 2 of *Think* (if you don't have your textbook yet, these first two chapters are available as PDFs in the 'Resources' link under 'Textbook Readings')

9/1

1. Discussion of introductory materials
2. Indigenous Religions

Before 9/8

1. TAKE: Syllabus Quiz
2. READ: Hinduism Notes
3. READ: Ch. 3 of *Think*
4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 15-23 (you won't be able to answer all review questions until next week when you will have read Ch. 4)

9/8

1. Hinduism review
2. Hindu goddesses

Before 9/15

1. READ: Ch. 4 of *Think*
2. WATCH: *Shortcut to Nirvana* (a link to the film will be emailed via Lulima)
3. COMPLETE: Wkbk 15-23 (further complete these pages with the new knowledge from Ch. 4 and the film)
4. TAKE: Hinduism Quiz
5. TYPE: your notes on the two additional goddesses and your reaction to them and bring it to class on 9/15

9/15

1. Activity: Hinduism web
2. Hinduism discussion

Before 9/22 (note: this is a heavy reading week)

1. READ: Jainism Notes
2. COMPLETE: Wkbk 28-31
3. READ: Jainism textbook reading PDF (in the "Resources" link, click on "Textbook Readings")
4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 28-31 (add additional information from the new reading)
5. TAKE: Jainism Quiz
6. READ: Indian Buddhism Notes
7. READ: Ch. 5 of *Think*
8. COMPLETE: Wkbk 34- top of 38 (as much as you can, some parts will be filled in next week after reading Ch. 6)

9/22

1. Jainism discussion
2. Game: Life and Teachings of Buddha Game Show

Before 9/29

1. READ: Ch. 6 of *Think*

2. COMPLETE: Wkbk 34- top of 41 (add additional information from Ch. 6)
3. TAKE: Indian Buddhism Quiz
4. READ: Sikhism textbook reading PDF (in the “Resources” link, click on “Textbook Readings”)
5. REREAD: your syllabus

9/29

1. Indian Buddhism discussion
2. Activity: Jainism and Indian Buddhism cross word puzzle
3. Sikhism

Before 10/6

1. READ: Sikhism Notes
2. COMPLETE: Wkbk 44-48
3. TAKE: Sikhism Quiz

10/6

1. Sikhism
2. Game: ‘Toss a Test’ Review for Exam 1

Before 10/13

1. TAKE: Exam 1 at the Testing Center before it closes on Wednesday 10/12. Bring your ID and a 4x6in card of your notes to the exam.
2. READ: Daoism Notes
3. READ: Ch. 7 of *Think*
4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 51-54

10/13

1. Game: Life and Teachings of Laozi Game Show
2. Daoism and Confucianism discussion

Before 10/20

1. READ: Confucianism Notes
2. READ: Ch. 8 of *Think*
3. COMPLETE: Wkbk 57- top of 61
4. TAKE: Daoism Quiz
5. TAKE: Confucianism Quiz
6. READ: Shinto Notes
7. COMPLETE: Wkbk 65- top of 69

10/20

1. Daoism and Confucianism discussion continued
2. Activity: Daoism and Confucianism Scriptural Passage Identifications and Interpretations
3. Shinto

Before 10/27

1. READ: Shinto textbook reading PDF (in the “Resources” link, click on “Textbook Readings”)
2. TAKE: Shinto Quiz
3. READ: Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism Notes

4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 71- top of 76

10/27

1. Shinto discussion
2. Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism (Chinese and Japanese Buddhism)
3. Activity: Sectarian slogan/jingle

Before 11/3

1. TAKE: Mahayana Buddhism Quiz
2. REVIEW: Study your notes on Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and Mahayana/East Asian Buddhism

11/3

1. Mahayana/ East Asian Buddhism discussion
2. Game: Review for Exam 2

Before 11/10 (Note: this is a heavy study and reading week)

1. TAKE: Exam 2 at the Testing Center before it closes on Wednesday 11/9. Please note that the Testing Center will be closed on Tuesday for Election Day. Bring your ID and a 4x6in card of your notes to the exam.
2. READ: Zoroastrianism Notes
3. READ: Zoroastrianism textbook reading PDF (in the “Resources” link, click on “Textbook Readings”)
4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 79- top of 83
5. READ: Judaism Notes
6. COMPLETE: Wkbk 85- top of 94 (as much as you can, a few parts will come from the textbook chapters for next week)

11/10

1. Judaism
2. Game: Judaism movers and shakers

Before 11/17 (Note: this is a heavy work week)

1. TAKE: Zoroastrianism Quiz
2. READ: two articles on modern issues facing Zoroastrians
3. TYPE: your notes on the Zoroastrianism articles and your reaction to them and bring it to class on 4/13
4. READ: Chs. 9 & 10 of *Think*
5. WATCH: *Genocide* (a link to the film will be emailed via Lulima)
6. READ: Christianity Notes
7. COMPLETE: Wkbk 97- top of 107 (as much as you can, a few parts will come from the textbook chapters for next week)

11/17

1. *Genocide* film discussion
2. Game: Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ Game Show
3. Christianity discussion



Before 11/24

1. TAKE: Judaism Quiz
2. READ: Chs. 11 and 12 of *Think*

11/24 No Classes: Happy Thanksgiving!Before 12/1

1. TAKE: Christianity Quiz
2. READ: Islam Notes
3. READ: Chs. 13 and 14 of *Think*
4. COMPLETE: Wkbk 111-117

12/1

1. Christianity discussion continued
2. Game: Muhammad Puzzle Game
3. Islam

Before 12/8

1. WATCH: *Inside Mecca* (a link to the film will be emailed via Laulima)
2. TAKE: Islam Quiz

12/8 (last day of class)

1. Islam continued
2. Game: Four Corners Review for Exam 3

Finals Week

1. TAKE: Exam 3 at the Testing Center before it closes on 12/13. Bring your ID and a 4x6in card of your notes to the exam.
2. ENJOY: your summer! Thanks for being in class! I hope you learned a lot ☺

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :**Attendance Policy:

Since we only meet once per week, it is extremely important that you attend all classes. You are expected to 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 professor 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 a quiz, or exam, **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 if the student submitted all assignments and completed all quizzes and exams on time. A coupon may also be used to make up an absence.

If you miss class you need to see me or a classmate **before** the next class period to discover what you missed. Since the NQA coupon is only good for one week after an assignment is due, if you

wait until the next class period to learn about an in class assignment then you will already be too late to use a coupon.

#### 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. Plagiarism is treated seriously in this course. If you are quoting someone verbatim, then you must use quotation marks and cite the source immediately after the quotation in parenthetical form, (author's last name, page number). 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. Extra credit Think Logs can be turned in throughout the semester. However, no more than two extra credit Think Logs per student will be accepted during the last two weeks of classes. All extra credit must be received by December 8th.

#### Cell Phones:

Kindly do not answer phone calls, text message, or play games on your cell phone during class. The instructor 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](mailto: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 Laulima 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!