

Provisional Syllabus PH11 ID World Religions 3 Units Rm. Soc.
30 Fall, 1999 Reedley Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:00-8:50 S.N. 81405
Maynard Linn, Instructor

Course Objective: The term "religion" is notoriously difficult to define. For our purposes we will use Paul Tillich's very general characterization of religion as "ultimate concern." In the course of the semester we will deal with about eleven belief systems that reflect this quality of concern for ultimate issues and, in most cases, claims about ultimate reality. We will consider for each religion its theoretical, practical and social expressions. For various peoples around the globe, these religions represent the highest and best reflections of how man should live and how he may gain access to the transcendent. My hope is that each system will profitably come to intersect with your own areas of ultimate concern.

Course Requirements: Reading must be done as assigned. There will be three essay exams during the semester (each 15% of the final grade.) In addition, there will be a non-comprehensive final essay exam (20%) and a nine page term paper (25%). Participation in class discussion is 10% of the grade.

Grading: The curve method of grading is not used in this class. you may earn an "A" grade (or any other grade) by competing against a standard rather than against your peers.

Textbook: The Ways of Religion Roger Eastman, ed.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Roll will be taken each class session. If you arrive late to class, inform me after class. You are allowed six absences. Usually these would be for reasons of ill health or family needs. Two tardies constitute an absence. Very poor attendance will negatively affect your final grade.

Late Paper: A late paper will be accepted, but its grade will be lowered half a grade for each class day it is late. To avoid "emergencies," start work on the paper right away.

Office Hours: I will be available to meet with students after the class hour for as long as needed, or you may call me at home at 431-0952

CLASS SCHEDULE Soc. 30 p. 1

Week 1

Mon. Aug. 16 Introduction; Sample Essay
Read: pp. 1-15
Wed. Aug. 18 Hinduism
Read: pp. 16-22
Fri. Aug. 20 Hinduism
Read: pp. 22-32

Week 2

Mon. Aug. 23 Hinduism
Read: pp. 40-53
Wed. Aug. 25 Hinduism
Read: pp. 53-58
Fri. Aug. 27 Hinduism
Read: pp. 77-86

Week 3

Mon. Aug. 30 Buddhism
Read: pp. 86-94
Wed. Sept. 1 Buddhism
Read: pp. 94-98
Fri. Sept. 3 Buddhism
Read: pp. 99-105

Week 4

Mon. Sept. 6 CLASS DOES NOT MEET Labor Day
Wed. Sept. 8 Buddhism
Read: pp. 110-117, 119-121
Fri. Sept. 10 Buddhism
Read: pp. 131-139

Week 5

Mon. Sept 13 Zen Buddhism
Read: pp. 139-148
Wed. Sept. 15 Zen Buddhism
Study for exam
Fri. Sept 17 Exam 1
Read: pp. 163-169

Week 6

Mon. Sept. 20 Confucianism
Read: pp. 169-175
Wed. Sept 22 Confucianism
Read: pp. 176-186
Fri. Sept. 24 Confucianism
Read: pp. 215-223

Week 7

Mon. Sept. 27 Taoism
Read: pp. 223-230
Wed. Sept. 29 Taoism
Read: pp. 233-240
Fri. Oct. 1 Taoism
Read: pp. 257-263

Week 8

Mon. Oct. 4 Shinto
Read: pp. 264-271
Wed. Oct. 6 Shinto
Read: pp. 271-275
Fri. Oct. 8 Shinto
Study for exam

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Week ~~10~~ 9

- Mon. Oct. 11 Exam 2
 Read: pp. 287-293
 Wed. Oct. 13 Judaism
 Read: pp. 293-300
 Fri. Oct. 15 Judaism
 Read: pp. 301, 304-309

Week ~~12~~ 10

- Mon. Oct. 18 Judaism
 Read: pp. 313-318
 Wed. Oct. 20 Judaism
 Read: pp. 318-326
 Fri. Oct. 22 Judaism
 Read: pp. 337-342

Week ~~13~~ 11

- Mon. Oct. 25 Christianity
 Read: pp. 343-349
 Wed. Oct. 27 Christianity
 Read: pp. 349-355
 Fri. Oct. 29 christianity
 Read: pp. 356-364

Week ~~14~~ 12

- Mon. Nov. 1 Christianity
 Read: pp. 373-380
 Wed. Nov. 3 Christianity
 Study for exam
 Fri. Nov. 5 Exam 3
 Read: pp. 397-405

Week ~~15~~ 13

- Mon. Nov. 8 Islam
 Read: pp. 406-415
 Wed. Nov. 10 Islam
 Read: pp. 416-421
 Fri. Nov. 12 Islam
 Read: pp. 422-428

Week ~~16~~ 14

- Mon. Nov. 15 TERMPAPER DUE Discuss Islam
 Read: pp. 428-435
 Wed. Nov. 17 Islam
 Read: pp. 435-441
 Fri. Nov. 19 Islam
 Read: pp. 447-454

Week ~~17~~ 15

- Mon. Nov. 22 African Religion
 Read: pp. 454-461
 Wed. Nov. 24 African Religion
 Read: pp. 461-467
 Fri. Nov. 26 CLASS DOES NOT MEET Thanksgiving

Week ~~18~~ 16

- Mon. Nov. 29 African Religion
 Read: pp. 487-496
 Wed. Dec. 1 Religion in America
 Read: pp. 499-505
 Fri. Dec. 3 Religion in America
 Read: pp. 505-511

Week ~~19~~ 17

- Mon. Dec. 6 Religion in America
 Read: pp. 511-516

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Wed. Dec. 8 Religion in America
Read: pp. 528-535

Fri. Dec. 10 Discuss Epilogue
Week 2018

Wed. Dec. 15 FINAL EXAM 8:00-10:00 a.m.