Religion 1103: Introduction to World Religions

Instructor: Jessica Doyle

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Please include the CRN for your course in email correspondence

(Please allow 24 hours for email response)

Office Hours: TR 9:00-9:45 or 12:30-1:15 SSH 269; virtual appointments also available (made via email)

Course Objectives: This course will introduce students to religions from around the world and students will gain the tools to study and discuss those religions objectively in an academic setting. Students will gain the tools to analyze the concepts of religion and how it applies to the study of different cultures and beliefs.


Grading: Two midterm exams will account for 15% of the final grade (each) and the final exam will account for 20% of the student’s final grade. The Religion Responses (total) will account for 30% of the student's final grade. 10% of student's grade is based on attendance and participation. There will be one writing assignment that will count toward the final grade that will be an out of class essay that will account for 10% of the final grade.

Religion Responses: For each religion covered in this course, students will be expected to write a response and analysis which highlights the observable aspects that we can examine as we study that particular religion. Emphasis should be given to concepts like historical accuracy and descriptive accuracy. The total for completing all 12 assignments will account for 30% of the student’s final grade.

Classroom Procedure: Students should maintain proper behavior in this course. Interactions and discussions should be done with respect and compassion given to others.

Disability Procedures: Accommodation letters should be received by the instructor as soon as possible to ensure adequate accommodations are available.

Additional Information: Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the Syllabus Attachment at the following link. This attachment has information about Covid-19 and university policy regarding that as well as information about university policies on drop and withdrawal and university schedules.

O K L A H O M A S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y (okstate.edu)

Academic Integrity: All students should familiarize themselves with the Academic Integrity policy at the link provided below. This policy will be strictly enforced in this course. If you have questions or concerns about the policy, please ask before submitting any work that may cause an issue.
Course Schedule:

Week 1
1/17  What is Religion and how do we study religions in an academic setting?
1/19  Academic Approach to religion

Week 2
1/24  Indigenous religions of North America
1/26  Indigenous religions of North America

Week 3
1/31  Religion Response 1 due by 11:59 pm
       Indigenous religions of Africa
2/2   Indigenous religions of Africa

Week 4
2/7   Religion Response 2 due by 11:59 pm
       Hinduism
2/9   Hinduism

Week 5
2/14  Religion Response 3 due by 11:59 pm
       Buddhism
2/16  Buddhism

Week 6
2/21  Religion Response 4 due by 11:59 pm
       Review/Jainism
2/23  Exam 1

Week 7
2/28  Jainism
3/2   Religion Response 5 due 11:59 PM
       Jainism/Sikhism
Week 8
3/7  Sikhism
3/9  Religion Response 6 due by 11:59 pm
     Sikhism/Daoism
3/13-17 Spring Break
Week 9
3/21  Daoism/Confucianism
3/23  Paper Due
     Religion Response 7 due by 11:59 pm
     Confucianism
Week 10
3/28  Religion Response 8 due by 11:59 pm
     Zoroastrianism
3/30  Zoroastrianism
Week 11
4/4  Religion Response 9 due by 11:59 pm
     Judaism
4/6  Judaism
Week 12
4/11  Review/Christianity
4/13  Exam 2
Week 13
4/18  Religion Response 10 due by 11:59 pm
     Christianity
4/20  Christianity
Week 14
4/25  Religion Response 11 due by 11:59 pm
     Islam
4/27 Islam
Week 15
5/2 Religion Response 12 due by 11:59 pm
    New Religious Movements
5/4 Review
Final Exam Week
5/8-5/12 Final Exam Week
Final Exam: 5/9 2:00-3:50

Reading Schedule:
    Chapter 1 Invitation to World Religions
Week 2: Chapter 2 Invitation to World Religions
Week 3: Chapter 3 Invitation to World Religions
Week 4: Chapter 4 Invitation to World Religions
Week 5: Chapter 5 Invitation to World Religions
Week 6: Chapter 6, Invitation to World Religions
Week 7: Chapter 7, Invitation to World Religions
Week 8: Chapter 7 and 8, Invitation to World Religions
Week 9: Chapter 8 Invitation to World Religions
Week 10: Chapter 8 and 10, Invitation to World Religions
Week 11: Chapter 11, Invitation to World Religions
Week 12: Chapter 12, Invitation to World Religions
Week 13: Chapter 13, Invitation to World Religions
Week 14: Catch up on any missed reading
Week 15: Chapter 14, Invitation to World Religions

**Additional Notes:** This syllabus is subject to change. Any major changes will be communicated via email or via an updated syllabus on Canvas.**