



SOUTH
PLAINS
COLLEGE

Policy Statement

Instructor: B. Kyle Keltz

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Office Hours: T/R 1:00pm-02:30pm

Department: English

Campus: Levelland

Course Number: Phil 1304-001

Course Title: Introduction to World Religions

Semester/Year: Spring 2020

I. Course Description

This course presents a comparative study of world religions, including but not limited to Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism.

II. Prerequisites

None

III. Course Purpose

Philosophy 1304 allows students to learn the facts about each of the world's major religions, engage in meaningful discussions, and reach their own conclusions about each worldview and its validity. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the human condition across cultures.

IV. Required Resources for the Course

Michael Molloy. *Experiencing the World's Religions*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2018. ISBN: 978-0078119217.

V. Core Curriculum Objectives Addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- **Social Responsibility**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

VI. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and critique religious literature.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key beliefs, practices, values, and terminology of major world religions.
3. Trace the historical developments and cultural expressions of world religions.
4. Articulate key conceptual distinctions in world religions.
5. Communicate understanding of world religions, orally and in writing.
6. Communicate ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse religious beliefs.

VII. Grading of Course Work:

Exam 1	200	Grade Total:	
Exam 2	200	A (Excellent):	900-1000
Exam 3	200	B (Good):	800-890
Final Exam	200*	C (Average):	700-790
Blackboard Reading Quizzes	200	D (Below Average):	600-690
Blackboard Journal Entries	200	F (Failure):	0-590

*I will drop the lowest of the four exam grades.

VIII. Late Work:

Unless prior approval is received, late submission of assignments will result in a grade deduction of one half-letter grade for each calendar day (not including Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays) that the assignment is late.

IX. Attendance:

Any student who accrues **more than four** unexcused absences (or **eight** excused) **shall be dropped** with a grade of “X” if the student has a passing grade average at that time. If the student is failing, due to poor work or missing assignments, the student will be given a grade of “F.” An absence will only be excused if the student misses class for a legitimate, unavoidable reason (for example, because of an illness or official trip authorized by the college), the student notifies the instructor before the class is missed, and the student provides confirming documentation (for example, a doctor’s note).

A student accrues an absence each time he or she accumulates a total of three tardies. A ‘tardy’ is defined as being between 1-10 minutes late. Whenever possible, students should let the instructor know about expected absences as soon as possible and before

the class meeting. If a student is more than 30 minutes late to class, that student will be counted absent.

X. Student Code of Conduct Policy:

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

If a student is exhibiting disruptive behavior (for example, talking loudly without permission), I will give him or her a warning. The second time this happens, I will tell the student to leave class, and the student will be counted absent for the day. I will also contact the dean. The dean will usually contact the student to schedule a time to discuss the cause of the disruptions. After this, if there is a third disruption, I will ask the student to leave class and drop the student from the course with a grade of "F."

XI. Plagiarism and Cheating:

Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant it.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Giving an in-text citation only at the end of a paragraph.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet) during an examination, quiz or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records; or
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.

XII. Disability Statement:

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. Processing time could take up to 30 days once paperwork has been submitted. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716- 2577, Reese Center (Building 8) & Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

XIII. Nondiscrimination Policy:

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. All SPC courses meet federal regulations under Title II of the ADA, Sections 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College -1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336, 806- 716-2360.

XIV. Title IX Pregnancy Statement:

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716- 2362 or email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

XV. Diversity Policy:

In this class, the instructor will endeavor to establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all participants to learn about others, about the larger world, and about themselves.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Week	Date	Topics	Readings	Assignments
1	Jan. 14 Jan. 16	Introduction to Course Introduction to Religion	Course Syllabus Chap. 1 Understanding Religion (pp. 1-19)	
2	Jan. 21 Jan. 23	Religious Pluralism Indigenous Religions: Worldview	Chap. 1 Understanding Religions (pp. 20-32) Chap. 2 Indigenous Religions (pp. 33-46)	Ch. 1 Reading Quiz (Jan. 25)
3	Jan. 28 Jan. 30	Indigenous Religions: Practices Hinduism: Origins and Worldview	Chap. 2 Indigenous Religions (pp. 47-72) Chap. 3 Hinduism (pp. 73-91)	Ch. 2 Reading Quiz (Feb. 01)
4	Feb. 04 Feb. 06	Hinduism: Practices Buddhism: Origins and Worldview	Chap. 3 Hinduism (pp. 92-113) Chap. 4 Buddhism (pp. 119-134)	Ch. 3 Reading Quiz (Feb. 08)
5	Feb. 11 Feb. 13	Buddhism: Practices	Exam 1 Study Guide Chap. 4 Buddhism (pp. 135-169)	Exam 1 (Feb. 11) Journal Entry 1 (Feb. 15)
6	Feb. 18 Feb. 20	Jainism: Origins, Worldview, Practices Sikhism: Origins, Worldview, Practices	Chap. 5 Jainism and Sikhism (pp. 175-186) Chap. 5 Jainism and Sikhism (pp. 187-194)	Ch. 4 Reading Quiz (Feb. 22)
7	Feb. 25 Feb. 27	Daoism: Origins, Worldview, Practices Confucianism: Origins, Worldview, Practices	Chap. 6 Daoism and Confucianism (pp. 199-217) Chap. 6 Daoism and Confucianism (pp. 218-240)	Ch. 5 Reading Quiz (Feb. 29)
8	Mar. 03 Mar. 05	Shinto: Origins and Worldview	Exam 2 Study Guide Chap. 7 Shinto (pp. 245-251)	Exam 2 (Mar. 03) Journal Entry 2 (Mar. 07)
9	Mar. 10 Mar. 12	Shinto: Practices Judaism: Origins and Worldview	Chap. 7 Shinto (pp. 252-265) Chap. 8 Judaism (pp. 271-300)	Ch. 7 Reading Quiz (Mar. 14)
10	Mar. 17 Mar. 19	Spring Break	No Class	No Class
11	Mar. 24 Mar. 26	Judaism: Practices Christianity: Origins and Worldview	Chap. 8 Judaism (pp. 301-313) Chap. 9 Christianity (pp. 319-368)	Ch. 8 Reading Quiz (Mar. 28)
12	Mar. 31 Apr. 02	Christianity: Practices Islam: Origins and Worldview	Chap. 9 Christianity (pp. 369-383) Chap. 10 Islam (pp. 389-423)	Ch. 9 Reading Quiz (Apr. 04)
13	Apr. 07 Apr. 09	Islam: Practices Journal Writing/Exam Review	Chap. 10 Islam (pp. 424-443)	Ch. 10 Reading Quiz (Apr. 11)
14	Apr. 14 Apr. 16	Atheism/Humanism: Worldview	Exam 3 Study Guide Chap. 12 The Modern Search (pp. 483-499)	Exam 3 (Apr. 14) Journal Entry 3 (Apr. 18)
15	Apr. 21 Apr. 23	Atheism/Humanism: Practices Science and Religion	Chap. 12 The Modern Search (pp. 500-509) Science and Religion Handout	Ch. 12 Reading Quiz (Apr. 25)
16	Apr. 28 Apr. 30	Journal Writing/Catch Up Exam Review	Final Exam Review	Journal Entry 04 (May. 02)
17	May 05 May 07	Finals Week	Final Exam Study Guide No Class	Final Exam (10:15am-12:15pm May 05) No Class