

COURSE OUTLINE
Revision: M. McCrath, May 2008

DEPARTMENT: Academic Programs

CURRICULUM: Individuals, Cultures and Societies

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Western Religions

COURSE NUMBER: REL 150

TYPE OF COURSE: Academic Transfer
Special Requirement Met: Integrated Studies

AREA(S) OF KNOWLEDGE: Individuals, Cultures and Society

COURSE LENGTH: 1 quarter

CREDIT HOURS: 5

LECTURE HOURS: 55

LAB HOURS: 0

CLASS SIZE: 35

PREREQUISITES: COMPASS Reading: 77, Writing: 68

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A socio-historic survey of the religions that have developed west of the Indus River. The course is designed to promote a better understanding of those traditions and their cultural influences on history.

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ADDRESSED:

1. Communication – speak and write effectively
2. Human relations – recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values
3. Critical thinking and problem solving – think critically in evaluating information, solving problems and making decisions
4. Personal responsibility – take pride in one's work
5. Personal responsibility – be aware of civic and environmental issues
6. Information literacy – access and evaluate information from a variety of sources and contexts, including technology.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Recognize and be able to list the essential characteristics which distinguish the major eastern religious traditions
2. Demonstrate through testing an awareness of contemporary religious concerns
3. Be able to discuss different responses to issues such as the conflict between science and religion, problems of meaning and death, and the human search for identity
4. Be able to discuss in a written exam the basic components of each major religious tradition, such as its concept of the divine, moral codes, value systems, rituals, and artistic expression
5. Be able to discuss the religious conflicts and trends in the modern world
6. Be able to demonstrate, through testing, a better understanding of his/her own religious background and that of the surrounding community
7. Produce at least one research paper discussing in some detail aspects of at least one major religion studied in this course

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TOPICAL OUTLINE:	APPROX. HOURS
I. Introduction to the basic religions	4
II. Zoroastrianism	8
III. Judaism	12
IV. Early Christianity	3
V. Midterm Exam	1
VI. Early – Modern Christianity	9
VII. Islam	12
VIII. Baha'i	6
TOTAL	55

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SLO #	Included in Course Objective Number	SSCC Student Learning Outcomes
SLO 1.1	1,2,3,4,5,6	Communication - Read and listen actively
SLO 1.2		Communication - Speak and write effectively
SLO 2.1		Computation - Use mathematical operations
SLO 2.2		Computation - Apply quantitative skills
SLO 2.3		Computation - Identify, interpret, and utilize higher level mathematical and cognitive skills
SLO 3.1		Human Relations - Use social interactive skills to work in groups effectively
SLO 3.2	1,2,3,4,5,6	Human Relations - Recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values
SLO 4.1	3,4,5,6	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving -
SLO 5.1		Technology - Select and use appropriate technological tools
SLO 6.1		Personal Responsibility - Be motivated and able to continue learning and adapt to change
SLO 6.2		Personal Responsibility - Value one's own skills, abilities, ideas and art
SLO 6.3	2,4,6,7	Personal Responsibility - Take pride in one's work
SLO 6.4		Personal Responsibility - Manage personal health and safety
SLO 6.5	1,2,5,6	Personal Responsibility - Be aware of civic and environmental issues
SLO 7.1	7	Information Literacy - Access and evaluate information
SLO 7.2		Information Literacy - Use information to achieve personal, academic, and career goals, as well as to participate in a democratic society

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