Course Description

This course is an introduction to the study of religion through the examination of the origins, teachings, and practices of selected world religions. This course will involve three exams, a journal, and a term paper.

Course Objectives

- Strong focus on Religions of India, Religions of Japan and China, and Religions of the Middle East
- Appreciate the diversity and similarities among different religious societies and cultures in both contemporary and historical perspectives
- Discover the history, teachings, and practices of various religious societies and cultures and be able to evaluate and interpret them in both national and international contexts
- Improve students’ writing skills

Required Reading

Textbook
- *Experiencing the World’s Religions* by Michael Molloy, 6th Edition

Instructor Information

Name: Miss Jennell Botello
Class Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 12:00pm – 12:50pm
Class Room: VH 133
Email: jbotel01@fiu.edu
Turnitin.com
- Class ID #: 6801899
- Class Password: religion13

*All turnitin assignments are due at 11:59pm on the due date*

***ABSOLUTELY NO TAPE RECORDING DEVICES OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED***
Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Policies

Test 1
The first test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The test focuses on the first part of the semester, which will be Religions of The Middle East.
***No Make Ups***

Test 2
The second test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The second test is non-cumulative and will cover material covered after the first exam: Religions of India.
***No Make Ups***

Test 3
The third test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The third test is non-cumulative and will cover material covered after the second exam: Religions of Japan and China.
***No Make Ups***

Term Paper
Students will turn in a term paper worth (15%) of the overall grade. The term paper must be a minimum of 8 pages and no more than 10 pages in length, excluding the bibliography or works cited page and the cover page. This paper is formal and must be typed, *not hand-written*, in Times New Roman font size 12 and double-spaced. The margins should be 1-inch on all sides. APA, MLA, and Chicago Manual Style will be accepted. The students will be emailed more detailed instructions during the first week of class. This paper will also be submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com). Topics are due one week before the date of the term paper. Check the syllabus for dates.
Journal
Students will turn in a journal worth (15%) of the overall grade. The journal is an assignment in which the student reports on current events in the news that involve religion and societies around the world. The student will be required to have ten entries by the end of the semester; 3 for August, 3 for September, and 4 for October. The student will cut out or print the article, place it inside a binder or a duo-tang folder, and write a two page summary and reflection about the article. The journal entries must be typed and double spaced. The journals will be collected towards the end of the semester.

Attendance
Attendance is (10%) of the student’s grade. The student is allowed two absences for the semester without being penalized. Any absence after the two allowed ones will result in points being deducted from the student’s final grade. Attendance is strongly advised since the professor uses outside knowledge and material to supplement the book and make the lectures more complete. The attendance grade also includes tardiness and conduct in class. Those students who talk excessively, constantly enter and leave the classroom due to phone calls, text message continuously, listen to their ipods during lectures, and play on their laptops during class time will have their attendance score marked down. Students who are considered to be disruptive and disrespectful will be asked to leave and their attendance will be marked down.

***Cell phones must be set to silent mode***

Extra Credit (Movie Review)
Students will pick a movie with a religious theme from a list that will be emailed during the first week of class and answer certain questions according to the movie chosen. The student is able to earn a total of 5 points to their lowest grade. The movies are placed on reserve on the 5th floor of the Green Library under the name Professor Botello. They can also be found on Netflix or your local video store. This assignment will also be submitted to www.turnitin.com.

Syllabus

1. [Monday – August 26] Introduction: Syllabus, Requirements
2. [Wednesday – August 28] Judaism
   Reading This Chapter for Class
3. [Friday – August 30] Judaism
5. [Wednesday – September 4] Judaism
6. [Friday – September 6] Judaism
8. [Wednesday – September 11] Islam
   Reading This Chapter for Class
9. [Friday – September 13] Islam
10. [Monday – September 16] Islam
11. [Wednesday – September 18] Islam
12. [Friday – September 20] Islam
13. [Monday – September 23] **Test 1**
   Reading This Chapter for Class
15. [Friday – September 27] Hinduism
17. [Wednesday – October 2] Hinduism
18. [Friday – October 4] Hinduism / Buddhism
   Reading This Chapter for Class
20. [Wednesday – October 9] Buddhism
21. [Friday – October 11] Buddhism
22. [Monday – October 14] Buddhism
   **Term Papers Due**
23. [Wednesday – October 16] Jainism
24. [Friday – October 18] Jainism
   Reading This Chapter for Class
26. [Wednesday – October 23] Jainism
27. [Friday – October 25] Jainism
28. [Monday – October 28] **Test 2**

29. [Wednesday – October 30] Daoism  
   Reading This Chapter for Class

30. [Friday – November 1] Daoism


32. [Wednesday – November 6] Confucianism  
   Reading This Chapter for Class

33. [Friday – November 8] Confucianism

34. [Monday – November 11] **Veteran’s Day Holiday (No Class)**

35. [Wednesday – November 13] Confucianism  
   Reading This Chapter for Class
   **Journals Due (A-L)**

36. [Friday – November 15] Shinto  
   **Journals Due (M-Z)**

37. [Monday – November 18] Shinto

38. [Wednesday – November 20] Shinto

39. [Friday – November 22] Shinto

40. [Monday – November 25] Shinto

41. [Wednesday – November 27] **Thanksgiving Holiday (No Class)**

42. [Friday – November 29] **Thanksgiving Holiday (No Class)**

43. [Monday – December 2] **Movie**  
   **Extra Credit Due**  
   **Late Papers Due**

44. [Wednesday – December 4] **Movie**

45. [Friday – December 6] **Test 3**

***** **The Schedule Is Subject To Change. Any Changes Will Be Emailed** *****
Cheating and Plagiarism

1. Students found cheating will be given a 0 for the assignment followed by disciplinary actions.
2. Students found cheating on an exam will be given a 0 for the test.
3. Students that are caught cheating repeatedly will be given an F for the class followed by disciplinary action.
4. Students found plagiarizing will be given a 0 for the assignment.
5. If the student has plagiarized the entire work then the student will be given a grade of F for the class followed by disciplinary actions.
6. It is recommended to look over the University’s Code of Academic Integrity at [http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/2codeofacainteg.htm](http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/2codeofacainteg.htm).

Email Information

1. Students must put the class name and time in the subject line. The student must also include their name and panther id in the email. This will guarantee a quicker reply.
2. The instructor will check her email every day. If multiple students email the same concern, then an email will be sent to all of the students addressing the issue.
3. Additional instructions and readings for assignments will be emailed throughout the semester.

Make Up Tests and Late Papers

1. As stated above there are no make-up exams. It is recommended to plan accordingly to be available for the three exam dates.
2. Late papers will be accepted, but a grade deduction will be given for the lateness.
3. Absolutely no late paper will be accepted after the final deadline for all papers (December 2).

Attendance

1. Coming to class and signing in does not guarantee full attendance points.
2. Attendance is a combination of attending class AND conduct in the classroom.
3. Students who are disrespectful and disruptive to the professor and their fellow classmates will be asked to leave.

Cell Phones and Laptops

1. Cell Phones must be set to silent mode.
2. Laptops used for social media purposes or entertainment will not be tolerated. If this happens the student will have to take notes the old fashion way with a pencil/pen and paper.
3. Cell phone usage during a test will result in a 0

**Additional Information**

1. Students are encouraged to keep a copy of all papers submitted to the instructor.
2. MLA, APA, and Chicago writing styles are accepted for the written assignments.
3. The University’s last day to drop courses or withdraw without incurring a financial liability is **Sept 3**.
4. Last day to withdraw from the University with a 25% refund of tuition **Sept 20**
5. Deadline to drop a course with a DR grade is **November 4**