Required Texts:
Anatomy of the Sacred: An Introduction to Religion by James C. Livingston
*Other Material will be provided by the Instructor

Course Objectives:
**Students will be able to identify the relationship between religion and culture.
**Students will be able to identify the function of religion in different socio-political contexts.
**Students will be able to comprehend the dangers inherited in an “Universal” theology.
**Students will be able to construct a competent argument for choosing a global perspective of religion as the choice for fully understanding the sacred.
**Students will be able to understand their embedded religious views over against other world religions.
**Students will be able to identify the transformative nature of religions under the impact of a sacred world view.

“This is a Global Learning Foundations course that counts towards your FIU Global Learning graduation requirement”
Global Learning Objectives Targeted:

**Analyze topics in the field of religious studies from multiple perspectives.**

**Assess how global issues and trends are interrelated with the development and practice of religions.**

**Demonstrate willingness to think creatively about religious issues in the contemporary world.**

GLOBAL LEARNING GRADUATION HONORS:

FIU’s Excellence in Global Learning Graduation Medallion is awarded to students who complete at least four global learning courses, participate in a variety of global co-curricular activities, and complete a capstone consisting of one of the following: a substantial original research project and presentation on a global topic; extensive foreign language study; long-term study abroad; or, a globally-focused internship. The Peace Corps Prep certification is conferred upon students who complete at least four global learning courses, extensive language study, and a global problem-solving project. Registration and program acceptance required. For more information, visit http://goglobal.fiu.edu

Gordon Rule Requirement:

As this is a Gordon Rule course, students will be required to write a minimum of two major assignments. Each paper will be at least 1500-2000 words and will be submitted through Turnitin. All source material must be cited correctly using MLA Style and long quotes should be avoided. Please be aware that papers with an originality score of over 35% similarity will be subject to additional scrutiny and may incur additional penalties, up to and including receiving an F (0 points).
Course Regulations and Procedures:

1) If late arrivals become disruptive or frequent, the professor reserves the right to turn away those who arrive more than fifteen minutes late.

2) No extra work will be accepted to compensate for low grades in the course work, or for missed work.

3) Late papers will be debited one letter grade for each class day late.

4) The grading scale is:

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\begin{align*}
A &= 100-93 \\
A- &= 92 - 90 \\
B+ &= 89 - 87 \\
B &= 86 - 84 \\
B- &= 83 - 80 \\
C+ &= 79 - 77 \\
C &= 76 - 70 \\
D &= 69-60 \\
F &= 59 - 0
\end{align*}
\]

5) Assignments graded:

- 25% .... Research Paper
- 20% .... Group Presentation
- 10%......Quizzes
- 20%......Essay
- 25%......Final Exam

Assignments: There will be a Research Paper, Group Presentation, Quizzes, Essay, and Final Exam...

Quizzes: Without notice, there will be quizzes given on the reading assignments. The quizzes will consist of True and False questions...

Research Paper: Students will be divided into groups, and each group will be assigned a religion. Then, each student will write a 12-page
research paper about the dialectic between the religion and culture (including the historical, political, and social contexts). All papers should be in dark type, double space, and with 12’ font.

**Group Presentation:** Each group will visit a religious site or interview a religious leader from an assigned religious community, and then give an oral and visual presentation about that religious community in the class. This presentation should highlight the historical, political, and social contexts of that religious community- referring to both the research paper and site visit/interview. A typed copy of the presentation must be given to the Professor.

**Essay:** Each student will choose a religion and write 5-7 pages about the Orthodox practices among the post-denominational generation. All papers should be in dark type, double space, and with 12’ font.

**Final Exam** will be on material covered from the textbook and class lectures. The exam will consist of Definition of Terms, True and False Questions, and two Essays. The final exam will be given only at the time that’s been specified by the University.

**Academic Information and Class Policy:**

**Plagiarism** is literary theft and is defined as the use, without proper acknowledgements, of the ideas, phrases, sentences, or larger units of discourse from another writer or speaker. This includes material found on the Internet. Plagiarism includes the unauthorized copying of software and the violation of copyright laws. Plagiarism will result in an “F” on the paper and likely in the class as well. It is also grounds for expulsion from the university. See the University Code of Academic Integrity at [http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/2codeofacainteg.htm](http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/2codeofacainteg.htm) for more information.
Cheating is defined as the attempt, successful or not, to give or obtain aid and/or information by illicit means in meeting any academic requirements, including examinations. Cheating includes falsifying reports and documents. Cheating on exams will result in zero awarded to both papers (so keep your paper covered).

Attendance: Class attendance and class participation are ways to succeed in this course- as some materials will inevitably be covered in class that are not in the textbook. In addition, monitoring attendance is mandatory during the first few weeks of class. Obsessive absences may result in be dropped from the course...

Incomplete Grades: An Incomplete grade is given only to the student who has been regularly attending class and has completed most of the class work but has a serious emergency at the end of the term.

Internet: You are encouraged to use the Internet- although, you must be careful and thoughtful when interpreting the data found on the web sites. Remember, the sites with the word “gov/ edu/ org” or usually good sites. This information will be covered further during visit to the library.

Due Date of Assignments are found in Canvas