



## REL 3308 Studies in World Religions

Section: RVH

Internet/Fully Online

Fall Term 2023

### Professor Information

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Tudor Parfitt

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**Office Hours:**

TBA

### Course Description and Purpose

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Religion is not a museum piece but a vibrant force in the lives of many people around the world today. Studies in World Religions is a sympathetic approach to what is living and significant in the world's major religious traditions and in various new movements that are arising. This course provides a clear and straightforward account of the development, doctrines, and practices of the major faiths followed today. The emphasis throughout is on the personal consciousness of believers and their own accounts of their religion and its relevance in contemporary life.

Why should you care about religion?

Maybe Jesus was a Buddhist monk. Where exactly did your yoga class come from? Why are Native Americans some of the best eco-advocates today? Is Judaism a religion, a culture, or a tribe? Is God dead? God may be alive, but is he a woman? It might be good

to wonder if religion is a force for good or evil to begin with? Can we still be spiritual without being religious?

These are not just entertaining questions, but are highly relevant to your personal and professional development in our globalized world. In this interdisciplinary course, we will explore these questions and many more that emerge as we investigate humanity, religion, and the cosmos.

How can this course help you advance in your career?

You do not need to be personally religious, majoring in religious studies, or in a field within humanities to benefit from this course. Whatever your academic field is, this course will train you to make important connections between your career and the world of the sacred and the profane. You will be able to explore the variety of religious expressions and frameworks that shape societies around the world, and the role religion plays in local and international affairs.

Religious literacy will greatly impact our ability to understand personal and social motivations behind financial decisions, political engagement, science and technological advancement, environmental and migration policies, family planning, diet and food production, gender relations, war and terrorist attacks, and more. Whether you notice or not, religion is a universal phenomenon that continues to transform and be transformed by our societies.

Our approach is interdisciplinary, which means you will be critically reflecting from many fields of study such as philosophy, psychology, cultural studies, history, economics, gender studies, among others. This enhances your ability to think critically, communicate effectively, respond sensitively, collaborate with others and creatively resolve conflict.

## Course Goals

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At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast religious societies and cultures in the local, national and/or international context.

2. Examine these societies and cultures within contemporary and historical perspective.
3. Discuss the issue of religious diversity in national and/or international context.
4. Analyze topics in the field of religious studies from multiple perspectives.
5. Evaluate how global issues and trends are interrelated with the development and practice of religions.
6. Demonstrate creative thinking about religious issues in the contemporary world.

## **Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

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Students will be able to:

- See Course Goals

## **Expectations of the Course**

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This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

In addition to the completion of writing assignments and exams, the primary requirement for successful completion of this course will be an open mind. Students are expected to exhibit respect to all religious traditions and peoples at all times. Thus, disrespectful or derisive commentary will not be tolerated in this course. Religion is, after all, a very personal and sensitive subject for many.

On the other hand, class participants can expect academic freedom to express their views. Although religion can be personal, this is an academic course taken for college credit and thus students are expected to examine the topics rigorously. Religion shall not be exempt from the scrutiny placed on any and all academic subjects.

Students are expected to:

- review the getting started page located in the course modules;
- introduce yourself to the class during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- take the practice quiz to ensure that your computer is compatible with the learning management system, Canvas;
- interact online with instructor and peers;
- review and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- log in to the course at least 5 times per week;
- respond to discussions by the due date specified. No late work will be accepted;
- respond to emails/messages within 3 days or sooner;
- submit assignments by the corresponding deadline

The instructor will:

- log in to the course 4 times per week;
- respond to discussion postings within 2 days of the deadline;
- respond to emails/messages within 48 hours;
- grade assignments within 2 weeks of the assignment deadline.

## **Assignments**

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Discussion Board Assignments (15% of overall grade)

There will be six (6) discussions in this course. These discussions are meant to stimulate critical thinking about how religions manifest in our globalized world.

Discussion topics will become available Monday, 12:00PM to Sunday, 11:59PM of each week that a discussion topic is posted. See the course calendar for the weeks that have discussion topics posted.

To receive full credit for the discussion assignments, students must post a minimum of 3 discussion threads per discussion topic:

- One post in response to the main discussion topic
- Two responses to other students' posts

Please refer to the rubric attached to each discussion for details on what criteria your assignments will be evaluated on. Canvas Tutorial: How do I view the rubric for my graded discussion?

Keep in mind that this is an academic forum; all students in the course will see the discussion posts. When criticizing or agreeing with another student's position on a given topic, please make sure to include supporting facts and specific examples to strengthen your position. Contribute links to articles, news stories, and/or other media whenever possible.

Quizzes (15% of overall grade)

A time-restricted, multiple-choice quiz will be given on each week's religious concept. The questions in the quizzes will draw from the weekly course content, including audio lectures and assigned readings.

Quiz Availability: Open from Monday, 12:00 AM to Sunday, 11:59 PM (see Course Calendar for specific dates)

Quiz Duration: Students will have 20 minutes to answer 10 multiple-choice questions.

Quiz Attempts: Quizzes may be attempted twice. The higher of the two attempts will count towards the student's final grade. It is not mandatory to take each quiz twice.

Quizzes will be graded automatically. Students will be able to see their scores immediately after submitting the quiz.

The correct answers for quizzes will not be released to students. Students will be able to see submitted answers only. Students should refer to their course materials for the correct answers.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be attempted through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact FIU Online Support Services.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and internet connection, it is very important that the "Practice Quiz" be attempted prior to beginning the quizzes or exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

Exams (50% of overall grade)

The Midterm Exam (25% of overall grade) and Final Exam (25% of overall grade) consist of both objective and essay portions.

The Midterm Exam will cover: Indigenous Religions, African Religions, Native American Religions, Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism.

The Final Exam will cover: Daoism/Confucianism, Shinto, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, New Religious Movements, and Religion in the 21st Century

The objective portions are online, time-restricted examinations. Unlike the quizzes, students will have only one attempt to complete the objective portions of the Midterm and Final Exams. Please make note of this important difference. The objective portion of exams will be graded automatically. Students will be able to see their scores immediately after submitting the exam.

The essay prompts for the exams will become available during the exam availability period. The essay portions of these exams must be submitted via Canvas and will be checked for plagiarism using Turnitin. The essay portion of the exams should be approximately 500-750 words long. Please refer to the rubric within the assignment page for details on what criteria your exam essays will be evaluated on.

Term Paper (20% of overall grade)

Important Information

The term paper will be automatically checked for plagiarism using Turnitin via Canvas. It is not necessary to create an account on Turnitin.com to submit this assignment.

Students may not submit work from a previous semester or from another class for this assignment or any other assignment in this course. It will be flagged for plagiarism by Turnitin.

Keep electronic and paper copies of all written work. For your own protection, keep a copy of your Turnitin electronic receipt (confirmation of assignment submission) until you have received your final grade for the course.

### Instructions for Students

Length: 1500-2000 words, in addition to a bibliography/works cited page

Formatting: Double-spaced, 12-pt font size, Arial or Times New Roman Font

Bibliography: a minimum of 3 academic sources; preferably peer-reviewed publications and books. One of these must be a book reference. These academic sources are in addition to your textbook/weekly readings/lectures. Do not use Wikipedia as an Internet source.

The textbook and required readings will not have enough information about any of the topic questions above to formulate substantial responses. To succeed in this assignment, set aside sufficient time to research the chosen topic thoroughly.

### Paper Topics

Construct an argument to answer one of the following three questions:

1. Identify one of the religions covered in this course that emphasizes behavior/deeds over adherence to creeds/beliefs/spiritual experiences in our current era. Then, compare it to another religion that you interpret as emphasizing the opposite, i.e., creeds/beliefs/spiritual experiences over behavior/deeds. Explain the reasons for such possible differences in emphases by exploring underlying sociological and historical themes. What were major world events or cultural developments that may have led each of these religions to emphasize each of these particular aspects over the other?

2. Although Buddhism and Hinduism share similar beliefs, their approaches to the self, or the 'soul' are very different. Explain the metaphysical and practical distinctions between anatman and atman, and how these concepts tie into each religion's unique approach to the sacred (god/gods) and the path to salvation. Make sure you specify which branches of Buddhism and Hinduism your analysis is tackling.
3. What is the meaning of the word Jihad in Islam? Select two distinct sects of Islam and explain key differences/similarities in the interpretation and practices of this term. What role, if any, does Jihad serve in the sects you have selected, in today's world? How has this role changed from previous historical time periods and/or how has it remained the same?

#### Grading Criteria

- Please refer to the rubric within the assignment page for details on what criteria your Term Paper will be evaluated on.
  - Pay special attention to the following items:
    - The information in your paper. Is it correct? Is it detailed? Do you demonstrate basic knowledge of the religious tradition from which the concept is taken? Is this knowledge evident in your description? You must use at least three academic sources in your paper. One of them must be a book reference.
1. How your information is presented. This includes the way the it is organized and language skills such as spelling, grammar, and proper sentence structure.
  2. The quality of your analysis, how well you support the main argument of your paper.

#### Research Resources

The following resources can assist with your research for this assignment:



- ATLA Religion Database
- JSTOR
- Web Site evaluation video (4 minutes)
- Web site evaluation guidelines from Berkeley

## Assessments

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In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

All assessments will auto-submit when (1) the timer runs out OR (2) the closing date/time is reached, whichever happens first. For example, if a quiz has a closing time of 5:00 pm but the student begins the exam at 4:55 pm, the student will only have 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the FIU Canvas Help Team. Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

## Grading

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Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points for Each	Weight
Discussion Board Assignments	6	20	15%
Quizzes	12	10	15%
Exams	2	150	50%
Term Paper	1	100	20%
Total	21	N/A	100%

Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)

Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60- 69
B+	87-89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

## Textbook and Course Materials for Purchase

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If no materials listed, no items are needed.

### Living Religions

**Required/Recommended:** Required

**Authors:** Mary Pat Fisher, Robin Rinehart

**Publisher:** Pearson

**Publication Date:** January 2016

**Copyright Date:** 2016

**ISBN 10:** 0134168976

**ISBN 13:** 9780134168975

**Additional Notes:** Print or digital versions of the book may be used. Acceptable editions: 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th.

### Panther Book Pack Undergraduate Rental Program

FIU has implemented the Panther Book Pack rental program, which provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack. The Panther Book Pack program applies to all undergraduate credit hours per academic session. I recommend that you review the pricing for all materials across your classes this session compared to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. You may opt back into the Panther Book Pack up to three days after the add/drop deadline. If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per credit hour and the course materials will be reserved for you for the undergraduate courses for which you are registered. For more details, visit [bookpack.fiu.edu](http://bookpack.fiu.edu)

## Course Communication

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Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox. I will respond to all correspondences within 24 hours.

## Discussion Forums

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### Example:

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

## Canvas Schedule

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Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	<a href="#">Open Forum</a>	Discussion	0
	<a href="#">Academic Honesty Policy</a>	Quiz	0
	<a href="#">Mid-Semester Grade (UCC Requirement)</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Practice Quiz</a>	Quiz	0
	<a href="#">Introduce Yourself</a>	Discussion	0

## Schedule

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Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
Week 1 Aug 21	Introduction and Indigenous Religions

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
<p>This week's work will remain open until 2nd week for students who register during ADD/DROP week.</p>	<p>Module Learning Objectives</p> <p>By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize what is meant by spirituality (CLO4)</li> <li>2. Identify three perspectives used to explain the existence of religion (CLO4)</li> <li>3. Differentiate between monotheistic, polytheistic, and nontheistic (CLO2)</li> <li>4. Recall the significance of rituals, symbols, and myths in religions (CLO4)</li> <li>5. Contrast absolutist with liberal interpretations of a religious tradition (CLO3)</li> <li>6. Recognize the major positions that have emerged in the dialogue between science and religion since the nineteenth century (CLO5)</li> <li>7. Recall how women are challenging the patriarchal nature of many institutionalized religions (CLO5)</li> <li>8. Identify the factors that contribute to the negative aspects of organized religions (CLO6)</li> <li>9. Label the different "lenses" used by scholars to study religion (CLO4)</li> </ol> <p>Instructional Materials</p> <p>The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Indigenous Religions and will help you complete the Module 1 Quiz and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 1 - "Religious Responses"</li> </ul>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 2 - "Indigenous Sacred Ways"</li> <li>• Lecture: Dr. Northup - "Introduction to Religion"</li> <li>• Video: "Religion: An Object to be Studied"</li> <li>• Video: "Mystic Lands: Australia: Dreamtime, Part 1"</li> <li>• Video: "Mystic Lands: Australia: Dreamtime, Part 2"</li> </ul> <p>Assignments</p> <p>The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 1   Religious Responses and Indigenous Sacred Ways (MLOs 1-9)</li> <li>• Introduce yourself in Discussions</li> </ul>
Week 2 Aug 28	<p>Native American Religions</p> <p>Module Learning Objectives</p> <p>By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss cosmology in various Native American religions (CLO1)</li> <li>2. Recognize shamanism in Native American religions (CLO4)</li> <li>3. Identify contemporary expressions of Native American religions (CLO5, CLO6)</li> <li>4. Recall the historical impact of colonialism on Native American religious expressions (CLO2)</li> <li>5. Compare and contrast Native American myths and practices (CLO3)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="440 247 748 279">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 327 1360 457">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Native American Religions and will help you complete the Module 2 Quiz, the Module 2 Discussion, and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="488 506 1305 867" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 506 1305 600">• Reading: "Quest for Harmony: Native American Spiritual Traditions"</li> <li data-bbox="488 632 1276 663">• Lecture: Dr. Huchingson - "Native American Religions"</li> <li data-bbox="488 705 1260 800">• Video: "Indigenous Sacred Ways: Religion Related to Ancestors and Place"</li> <li data-bbox="488 831 1094 867">• Video: "Apache Tribe Fights for Oak Flat"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 915 621 947">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 995 1360 1077">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="488 1125 1305 1293" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 1125 1305 1220">• Discussion - Mod. 2   Native American Religions (MLO1, MLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="488 1251 1273 1293">• Quiz - Mod. 2   Native American Religions (MLOs 1-5)</li> </ul>
Week 3 Sept 4	<p data-bbox="440 1344 678 1375">African Religions</p> <p data-bbox="440 1423 833 1455">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 1503 1141 1535">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="488 1583 1321 1818" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 1583 1321 1625">1. Identify basic facts about several African religions (CLO1)</li> <li data-bbox="488 1656 1240 1751">2. Recall the affect of Christianity and Islam on African religiosity now and in the past (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="488 1782 1078 1818">3. Recognize the origins of Yoruba (CLO2)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1305 344">4. Identify the relationship between ritual and cosmology in Yoruba (CLO4)</p> <p data-bbox="483 380 1284 470">5. Recall the impact of modernization/globalization on the African Bushmen in Botswana (CLO5, CLO6)</p> <p data-bbox="483 506 1325 596">6. Identify the rituals and symbols across a variety of African religions by geographical location (CLO3)</p> <p data-bbox="440 653 748 680">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 730 1321 856">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand African Religions and will help you complete the Module 3 Quiz and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 911 1219 1087" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 911 1219 947">• Article: "The Yoruba and Their Religious Tradition"</li> <li data-bbox="483 982 1036 1018">• Lecture: Dr. Rey - "African Religions"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1054 1019 1089">• Video: "The Bushmen of Botswana"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 1136 623 1163">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 1213 1349 1297">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1352 1138 1381" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1352 1138 1381">• Quiz - Mod. 3   African Religions (MLOs 1-6)</li> </ul>
Week 4 Sept 11	<p data-bbox="440 1482 574 1509">Hinduism</p> <p data-bbox="440 1560 834 1587">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 1638 1143 1665">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 1724 1330 1885" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1724 1330 1759">1. Identify the origins and significance of the Vedas (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1795 1330 1885">2. Recall how the epics and Puranas represent the Supreme (CLO2)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1325 344">3. Compare and contrast Shaktas, Shaivas, and Vaishnavas (CLO3)</p> <p data-bbox="483 380 1260 470">4. Discuss the major philosophical systems of Hinduism (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 506 1321 596">5. Recognize the main public and private rituals in Hinduism (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 632 1338 722">6. Identify the issue of defining Hindu identity in modern India (CLO3, CLO6)</p> <p data-bbox="440 779 748 810"><b>Instructional Materials</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 856 1300 982">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Hinduism and will help you complete the Module 4 Quiz, the Module 4 Discussion, and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1041 1273 1352" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 3 - "Hinduism"</li> <li>• Lecture: Dr. Katz - "Hinduism, Part 1"</li> <li>• Lecture: Dr. Katz - "Hinduism, Part 2"</li> <li>• Video: "Hinduism: The Countless Faces of the Divine"</li> <li>• Video: "Indian Classical Dance in the Modern World"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 1409 623 1440"><b>Assignments</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 1486 1349 1560">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1619 1068 1719" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 4   Hinduism (MLOs 1-6)</li> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 4   Hinduism (MLO4)</li> </ul>



Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
Week 5 Sept 18	<p data-bbox="440 327 548 359">Jainism</p> <p data-bbox="440 411 831 443">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 489 1138 520">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 573 1325 877" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 573 1325 604">1. Recognize the Jain belief about the Tirthankaras (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 646 1325 741">2. Identify the principles of nonviolence, nonattachment, and nonabsolutism (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 772 1149 804">3. Recall the key Jain spiritual practices (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 846 1029 877">4. Recognize the Jain diaspora (CLO2)</li> </ol> <p data-bbox="440 930 748 961">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 1014 1300 1129">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Jainism and will help you complete the Module 5 Quiz and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1192 1260 1360" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1192 959 1224">• Textbook: Chapter 4 - "Jainism"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1266 1127 1297">• Lecture: Samani Charitra Prajna - "Jainism"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1329 1260 1360">• Video: "Jainism: Another Tradition from Mother India"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 1413 621 1444">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 1497 1349 1570">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1623 1011 1654" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1623 1011 1654">• Quiz - Mod. 5   Jainism (MLOs 1-4)</li> </ul>
Week 6 Sept 25	<p data-bbox="440 1759 581 1791">Buddhism</p> <p data-bbox="440 1843 831 1875">Module Learning Objectives</p>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="440 247 1143 281">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 331 1344 1150" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="483 331 1284 365">1. Recall the story of the Buddha's enlightenment (CLO2)</li><li data-bbox="483 401 1338 491">2. Define the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path to liberation (CLO2)</li><li data-bbox="483 527 1344 617">3. Differentiate between Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism (CLO3)</li><li data-bbox="483 653 1268 686">4. Identify the schools of Mahayana in East Asia (CLO1)</li><li data-bbox="483 722 1230 812">5. Contrast Vajrayana with Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism (CLO3)</li><li data-bbox="483 848 1127 882">6. Identify the major Buddhist festivals (CLO2)</li><li data-bbox="483 917 1333 1008">7. Recognize the growing popularity of Buddhism in Western societies (CLO5)</li><li data-bbox="483 1043 1214 1134">8. Discuss the emerging focus on social problems in contemporary Buddhist practice (CLO5)</li></ol> <p data-bbox="440 1192 748 1226">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 1272 1300 1402">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Buddhism and will help you complete the Module 6 Quiz, the Module 6 Discussion, and the Midterm Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1455 1230 1629" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="483 1455 992 1488">• Textbook: Chapter 5 - "Buddhism"</li><li data-bbox="483 1524 964 1558">• Lecture: Dr. Heine - "Buddhism"</li><li data-bbox="483 1593 1230 1627">• Video: "Buddhism: The Interconnectedness of Life"</li></ul> <p data-bbox="440 1682 623 1715">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 1761 1349 1837">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 6   Buddhism (MLOs 1-8)</li> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 6   Buddhism (MLO8)</li> </ul>
Week 7 Oct 2	<p>Midterm Exam</p> <p>Midterm - Exam 1 (Objective and Essay portions)</p> <p>Available Monday 12:00 am – Sunday, 11:59 pm</p> <p>Instructional Materials</p> <p>The Midterm Exam will cover all material from the following Modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 1   Introduction and Indigenous Religions</li> <li>• Module 2   Native American Religions</li> <li>• Module 3   African Religions</li> <li>• Module 4   Hinduism</li> <li>• Module 5   Jainism</li> <li>• Module 6   Buddhism</li> </ul> <p>Assignments</p> <p>The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Midterm Exam - Objective</li> <li>• Midterm Exam - Essay</li> </ul>
Week 8 Oct 9	Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="440 247 834 281">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 323 1143 357">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 411 1360 1793" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 411 1240 504">1. Recognize the ancient Chinese tradition of ancestor worship and the concept of cosmic balance (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 537 1289 630">2. Identify the basic principles for life in harmony with Dao (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 663 1328 756">3. Discuss the practices associated with popular religion and organized Daoism (CLO4)</li> <li data-bbox="483 789 1312 882">4. Recognize the increasing interest in Daoist practices and philosophy in the West (CLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="483 915 1188 949">5. Recall the major teachings of Confucius (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 982 993 1016">6. Define Neo-Confucianism (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1050 1354 1209">7. Identify the ways in which Confucianism is being adapted to modern concerns in mainland China and other parts of East Asia (CLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1243 1321 1335">8. Explain the importance of the natural world in the roots of “Shinto” (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1369 1305 1461">9. Recognize the elements of Confucianism and Buddhism that have been blended with Shinto (CLO1)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1495 1328 1587">10. Recall the reasons why Shinto has been so closely tied to Japanese nationalism (CLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1621 1143 1654">11. Identify the meaning of “Sect Shinto” (CLO3)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1688 1253 1780">12. Recognize the main aspects of contemporary Shinto (CLO2)</li> </ol> <p data-bbox="440 1835 750 1869">Instructional Materials</p>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p>The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto and will help you complete the Module 7 Quiz, the Module 7 Discussion, and the Final Exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 6 - "Daoism and Confucianism"</li> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 7 - "Shinto"</li> <li>• Lecture: Prof. Avila - "Daoism and Confucianism"</li> <li>• Lecture: Prof. Avila - "Shinto"</li> <li>• Video: "Daoism and Confucianism: Coexisting and Complementary Value Systems"</li> <li>• Video: "Shinto: Veneration and Worship"</li> <li>• Video: "Elements of a Culture"</li> </ul> <p>Assignments</p> <p>The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 7   Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto (MLOs 1-12)</li> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 7   Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto (MLO3)</li> </ul>
Week 9 Oct 16	<p>Judaism</p> <p>Module Learning Objectives</p> <p>By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contrast biblical Judaism with rabbinic Judaism (CLO2)</li> <li>2. Recognize the role the European Enlightenment played in the development of Judaism (CLO5)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1203 289">3. Identify the key tenets of the Jewish faith (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 321 1312 357">4. Recognize the main sacred practices of Judaism (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 388 1321 485">5. Recall the High Holy Days and key festivals in the Jewish calendar (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 516 1333 613">6. Differentiate between the major branches of contemporary Judaism (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="440 659 748 695">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 741 1317 869">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Judaism and will help you complete the Module 8 Quiz and the Final Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 921 1321 1310" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 921 971 957">• Textbook: Chapter 8 - "Judaism"</li> <li data-bbox="483 989 1024 1024">• Lecture: Dr. Stier - "Judaism, Part 1"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1056 1024 1092">• Lecture: Dr. Stier - "Judaism, Part 2"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1123 1073 1159">• Video: "Judaism: An Evolving Tradition"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1190 1321 1226">• Video: "Mystic Lands: Jerusalem: Mosaic of Faith, Part 1"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1257 1321 1293">• Video: "Mystic Lands: Jerusalem: Mosaic of Faith, Part 2"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 1356 623 1392">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 1438 1349 1514">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1566 1019 1602" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1566 1019 1602">• Quiz - Mod. 8   Judaism (MLOs 1-6)</li> </ul>
Week 10 Oct 23	<p data-bbox="440 1654 699 1690">Islam and Sikhism</p> <p data-bbox="440 1736 834 1772">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 1818 1143 1854">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe pre-Islamic Arabia (CLO2)</li> <li>2. Recognize how the revelations given to Muhammad influenced Islamic belief (CLO2)</li> <li>3. Recall the role of the Qur'an in Islam (CLO4)</li> <li>4. Recognize the central teachings of Islam (CLO2)</li> <li>5. Identify the Five Pillars of Islam (CLO2)</li> <li>6. Distinguish between Sunni and Shi'a Islam (CLO3)</li> <li>7. Define shari'ah (CLO2)</li> <li>8. Recall the key aspects of Sufism (CLO2)</li> <li>9. Identify the reasons for the successful expansion of Islam in the seventh and eighth centuries (CLO2)</li> <li>10. Recall the spread of Islam in the West (CLO5)</li> <li>11. Discuss the main issues facing contemporary Islam (CLO5)</li> <li>12. Identify the life and teachings of Guru Nanak (CLO2)</li> <li>13. Recall the development of Sikhism during the time of the Gurus (CLO2)</li> <li>14. Recognize what happened to Sikhism in India after the death of Guru Gobind Singh (CLO2)</li> <li>15. Identify the central beliefs of Sikhism (CLO2)</li> <li>16. Recall how the teachings of Sikhism are put into practice (CLO2)</li> <li>17. Recognize the tensions and challenges faced by Sikhism in India and the diaspora (CLO5, CLO6)</li> </ol> <p data-bbox="440 1801 748 1839">Instructional Materials</p>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p>The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Islam and Sikhism and will help you complete the Module 9 Quiz, the Module 9 Discussion, and the Final Exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 10 - "Islam"</li> <li>• Textbook: Chapter 11 - "Sikhism"</li> <li>• Lecture: Dr. Musa - "Islam"</li> <li>• Video: "Islam: Muhammad as the Restorer of One True Religion"</li> <li>• Video: ""Sikhism: Disciples, Students, and Seekers of Truth"</li> </ul> <p>Assignments</p> <p>The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 9   Islam and Sikhism (MLOs 1-17)</li> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 9   Islam (MLO11)</li> </ul> <p><b>**Reminder: Term Paper is due soon!**</b></p>
Week 11 Oct 30	<p>Christianity</p> <p>Module Learning Objectives</p> <p>By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the four gospels on which Christian beliefs about the life and teachings of Jesus are founded (CLO2)</li> <li>2. Recall the major events in the life of Jesus as described in the gospels (CLO2)</li> </ol>



Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1300 344">3. Recognize the significance of Paul in the early Christian Church (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 380 1260 470">4. Recall the division between the Eastern and Western Churches in the Middle Ages (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 506 1289 596">5. Identify the major reforms of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Reformations (CLO3)</p> <p data-bbox="483 632 1317 722">6. Recognize the distinctive features of Orthodox spirituality (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 758 1276 848">7. Identify the central beliefs in contemporary Christianity (CLO2)</p> <p data-bbox="483 884 1344 1037">8. Recall “sacrament” and the seven sacraments observed by the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches (CLO1)</p> <p data-bbox="483 1073 1317 1163">9. Identify the difference between evangelicalism and Spirit-oriented movements (CLO1)</p> <p data-bbox="440 1220 748 1247">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 1297 1317 1423">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Christianity and will help you complete the Module 10 Quiz and the Final Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="488 1478 1317 1864" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 1478 1008 1507">• Textbook: Chapter 9 - "Christianity"</li> <li data-bbox="488 1549 1268 1579">• Lecture: Dr. Larson - "Christianity: The First Millennium"</li> <li data-bbox="488 1621 1317 1650">• Lecture: Dr. Gudorf - "Christianity: The Second Millennium"</li> <li data-bbox="488 1692 1211 1722">• Lecture: Dr. Northup - "Religion in North America"</li> <li data-bbox="488 1764 1276 1793">• Video: "Christianity: Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself"</li> <li data-bbox="488 1835 1105 1864">• Video: "Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus"</li> </ul>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="440 247 623 281">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 323 1360 407">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 457 1078 499" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 457 1078 499">• Quiz - Mod. 10   Christianity (MLOs 1-9)</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 541 1062 575">**Reminder: Term Paper is due next week!**</p>
Week 12 Nov 6	<p data-bbox="440 751 818 785">New Religious Movements</p> <p data-bbox="440 911 834 945">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 987 1143 1020">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 1071 1338 1877" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1071 1182 1104">1. Differentiate between “sect” and a “cult” (CLO4)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1146 1295 1293">2. Recognize the role that may be played by a charismatic leader in the development of a new religious movement (CLO4)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1335 1338 1419">3. Identify three contemporary new religious movements that are offshoots of older religions (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1461 1338 1545">4. Recall several movements that combine differing beliefs of traditional religions (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1587 1149 1621">5. Identify the key belief of universalism (CLO2)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1663 1338 1747">6. Recognize some of the aspects furthered by new religious movements arising from social trends (CLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1789 1279 1873">7. Recall the reasons behind the opposition to some new religious movements (CLO4)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1333 344">8. Identify the secular factors that predispose a new religious movement to last (CLO5)</p> <p data-bbox="440 394 748 426">Instructional Materials</p> <p data-bbox="440 474 1360 600">The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand New Religious Movements and will help you complete the Module 11 Quiz and the Final Exam.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 653 1325 831" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 653 1243 684">• Textbook: Chapter 12 - "New Religious Movements"</li> <li data-bbox="483 722 1073 753">• Lecture: Dr. Northup - "Sects and Cults"</li> <li data-bbox="483 791 1325 823">• Video: "New Religious Movements: The Book of Mormon"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 879 621 911">Assignments</p> <p data-bbox="440 959 1349 1037">The following assignments are due this week by Sunday at 11:59 PM.</p> <ul data-bbox="483 1094 1292 1192" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1094 1292 1125">• Quiz - Mod. 11   New Religious Movements (MLOs 1-8)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1163 846 1194">• Term Paper (CLOs 1-6)</li> </ul>
Week 13 Nov 13	<p data-bbox="440 1247 829 1278">Religion in the 21st Century</p> <p data-bbox="440 1409 829 1440">Module Learning Objectives</p> <p data-bbox="440 1488 1138 1520">By the end of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol data-bbox="483 1572 1325 1803" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1572 1138 1604">1. Identify the definition of globalization (CLO5)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1642 1243 1673">2. Recognize the forms of Western secularism (CLO4)</li> <li data-bbox="483 1711 1325 1803">3. Recall some of the factors that have led to a hardening of religious boundaries (CLO5)</li> </ol>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<p data-bbox="483 254 1360 863">           4. Identify the advantages and disadvantages of religions' involvement in politics (CLO5)            5. Recognize the ways in which people of different religions may relate to each other (CLO3)            6. Discuss the key social issues religions are dealing with today (CLO5)            7. Recall how religious observers have responded to issues of materialism in the contemporary world (CLO5)            8. Discuss the importance of the study of religions for the future of humanity (CLO5)         </p> <p data-bbox="440 909 748 940"><b>Instructional Materials</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 989 1338 1115">           The following readings, lectures, etc. will help you understand Religion in the 21st Century and will help you complete the Module 12 Quiz, the Module 12 Discussion, and the Final Exam.         </p> <ul data-bbox="483 1167 1360 1528" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1167 1256 1199">• Textbook: Chapter 13 - "Religion in the 21st Century"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1236 1138 1268">• Lecture: Dr. Gudorf - "Religion in the Future"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1306 1360 1394">• Video: "Religion in the Twenty-First Century: Its Impact Now and in the Future"</li> <li data-bbox="483 1432 1243 1528">• Video: "2009 Survey Finds More Americans Identify Themselves as Having No Religion"</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="440 1577 623 1608"><b>Assignments</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 1656 1321 1734">           The following assignments will remain open until November 27, 2022         </p> <ul data-bbox="483 1787 1308 1818" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="483 1787 1308 1818">• Quiz - Mod. 12   Religion in the 21st Century (MLOs 1-8)</li> </ul>

Week	Weekly Assignments/Readings/Modules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 12   Religion in the 21st Century (MLO6, MLO8)</li> </ul>
Week 14 Nov 20	<p>Assignments due this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz - Mod. 12   Religion in the 21st Century (MLOs 1-8)</li> <li>• Discussion - Mod. 12   Religion in the 21st Century (MLO6, MLO8)</li> </ul> <p>Review for Final Exam</p> <p>The Final Exam will cover all material from the following Modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 7   Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto</li> <li>• Module 8   Judaism</li> <li>• Module 9   Islam and Sikhism</li> <li>• Module 10   Christianity</li> <li>• Module 11   New Religious Movements</li> <li>• Module 12   Religion in the 21st Century</li> </ul>
Week 15 Nov 27	<p>Final Exam</p> <p>The following assignments are due this week by Saturday, at 11:59 PM</p> <p>Available from Monday, 1200am - Saturday, 11:59pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Exam - Objective</li> <li>• Final Exam - Essay</li> </ul>

## Policies

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Please review the [FIU's Policies webpage](#). The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses. For additional information, please visit [FIU's Policy and Procedure Library](#).

As a member of the FIU community, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code](#).

## Technical Requirements and Skills

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One of the greatest barriers to student success is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy, we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course, but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency in using a computer. Please go to the [What's Required webpage](#) to find out more information on this subject

Privacy Policy Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Adobe](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [ProctorU](#)
- [HonorLock](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [OpenStax](#)

- [Zoom](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit our [Technical Requirements webpage](#) for additional information.

## **Accessibility and Accommodation**

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The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact [FIU's Disability Resource Center](#).

Web Accessibility Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)
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- [Adobe](#)
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- [LinkedIn](#)
- [ProctorU](#)
- [HonorLock](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [OpenStax](#)
- [Zoom](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit [accessibility.fiu.edu](https://accessibility.fiu.edu) for additional information about accessibility at FIU.

## Academic Integrity

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Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Conduct and Honor Code.

*Academic Misconduct includes:*

### **Cheating**

- The unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids or assistance from another person on any academic assignment or exercise, unless explicitly authorized by the course Instructor;
- Assisting another student in the unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids, unless explicitly authorized by the Instructor; and
- Having a substitute complete any academic assignment or completing an academic assignment for someone else, either paid or unpaid;

### **Plagiarism**

- The deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the Student's own.
- Assisting another student in the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own.



Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

## **Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

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If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with [FIU's Panthers Care website](#).

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call (305) 348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

## **Inclusivity**

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This course will serve to embrace the diversity and inclusivity found within Florida International University. We appreciate and respect diversity, equality, equity, cooperativeness, community, and sustainability within our online courses. We are committed to the ongoing education of our students and their participation within the course regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, geographical location, religion, and disability. We strive in encouraging collaboration by preparing our students to value the differences in others. At the core of our intentions is the encouragement of acceptance and appreciation of differences within our student population and community.

## **Copyright**

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The following conduct is prohibited by the Student Conduct and Honor Code. Lack of familiarity with University policy is not a defense to a violation of this Code. Unless specifically noted, the intent is not a required element to establish a policy violation. The following conduct violation or any attempt to violate the Code will be used in charging all Students or Student Organizations;

## Section 5 | Conduct Violations - g. Computer Misuse

- vii. Unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted materials, including but not limited to, unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. This is a violation whether the user is using their own personal computer or the University's information technology system for unauthorized distributions.

**Copyright Statement:** The materials and content in this online course are provided solely for student use during the course. Course materials may not be shared outside of the course or with any third party without the explicit permission of the instructor or content publisher. [Visit FIU Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#) to learn more about copyright law and restrictions.

Additional Resources:

- [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#)
- [Digital Millennium Copyright Act Policy](#)
- [FIU - Copyright Guidance for Students](#)
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