

# **REL3316: Healing in Asian Religions;**

Section RVC

Professor: Samani Chaitanya Pragya

Email: Cpragiya@fiu.edu

305-348-1000

## **Course Description and Purpose**

We may often ask: Why do we suffer? Why are we ill? How do we heal? In addressing these questions this course will analyze the healing panorama in Asian traditions, including the nature of illness, the multiplicity of causes and the diversity of healing techniques. We will examine the philosophical imperatives as well the practical applications of healing techniques in Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, and Daoism. Students will also reflect on the differences and similarities of concepts and techniques of healing that have arisen with geographical changes, even those as small as the distance from India to China. The course will also serve as an opportunity to analyze the role of healing in dissolving barriers between religion and secularity.

## **Course Objectives**

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

- To obtain a broader idea of how various Asian traditions define health and ailment.
- To explore the contribution of Asian traditions to the development of philosophy and practice of healing.
- To apprehend the roles of body, mind and spirit in healing.
- To learn the efficient and alive healing techniques of Asia.
- To explore the beliefs and practices of mystical healing techniques.

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

- [Policies](#)
- [Technical Requirements and Skills](#)
- [Accessibility and Accommodation](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)
- [Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)

## **Course Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## **Proctored Exam Policy**

This course will not require proctored exams.

## **Textbook and Course Materials**

- No textbook is required. Reading material will be made available online in the course content. There could be more than one article for each lecture, please read all the study materials & also listen to the lectures with the presentations. Also enjoy the Video clips.

## **Expectations of this Course**

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.

Student engagement is a necessary condition for an effective learning experience, and includes contributions to debate and discussion, positive interactive learning with others, and an enthusiastic attitude towards inquiry. Everyone is expected to be a positive contributor to the class learning community, and students are expected to share the responsibility of teaching each other.

In an effort to provide online students with reliable and secure access to the online learning technology resources, FIU Online has standard maintenance periods to perform scheduled maintenance and system upgrades. FIU Online courses will be unavailable during the established maintenance schedule. System maintenance is performed weekly between the hours of 11:59 PM on Friday night through 5:00 AM on Saturday morning. Please do not submit any assignment during these hours. We thank you for your patience and we apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause.

## **Course Communication**

Communication in this course will take place via messages.

The message feature is a private, internal Canvas only communication system. Users must log on to the Canvas system to send/receive/read messages. There are no notifications in Canvas to inform users when a new message has been received; therefore, it is recommended that students check their messages routinely to ensure up-to-date communication.

## **Discussion Forums**

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.

Students are required to complete their initial post by Friday, 11:59pm and respond to their peers by Sunday, 11:59pm during the week the discussion is assigned.

## **Quizzes**

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. For quiz duration, grading criteria and feedback response time, please review the [important information about quizzes](#) page.

It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum [hardware requirements](#) [Links to an external site.](#).

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance, please

contact [FIU Online Support Services](#) [Links to an external site.](#).

Quizzes are open for one week. You may take each quiz twice, though the questions will usually be different because they are selected randomly from a large database. The purpose of the second attempt is to allow students who may have been disconnected from the Internet during a quiz to submit a complete quiz. Disconnection does happen; plan to make your first attempt a serious one. If you know that you will be unable to take a quiz during a specific week, contact the instructor by Course Mail in advance, and the quiz may be opened so you may take it early. Resetting quizzes after they have passed will require a serious and verifiable reason (death in the family, hospitalization, serious accident, etc.). It is the responsibility of students to keep up with the readings and take the quizzes on time.

### **Exams**

The Midterm and Final exam will be open for one week. If you know you will not be able to take them on the scheduled days, make arrangements to take them in advance of the scheduled days. Three days before the exams all the previous quizzes will be released so that students may open and print them, so as to study from them. The exams will have both objective and essay parts, separately timed, with an hour for the essay. The midterm essay and the final essay should be each at least 700 words.

### **Assignments**

#### **Term Paper**

Research and write a 2500 to 3000 (7-8 pages) word essay on any one healing tradition/technique (only from Asian Countries). Develop a paper analyzing its survival and contribution in an alien land (a place other than its origin).

Essays will be graded on the basis of Research, Thesis/Argument, and Style.  
Course Policies:

1. No extra work is accepted; you must master the assigned material.
2. The writing assignments in the course are the exam (Exam 1 & Exam 2), term paper, Quiz and the discussion forum postings; these are the principal means of integrating course material. Take them seriously.

3. Under university rules: Incompletes are only available to students who have completed the majority of work in the class. I will only give Incompletes when asked, and only when asked in advance of the end of classes, and incompletes granted will only extend until the next semester you enroll for courses (or, if you do not return to classes will default to F under university rules after two semesters.)
4. Make-Up Policy: There are no automatic make-ups given in this course. All assignments are due as indicated. If some unforeseen emergency arises that prevents you from taking an exam or handing in an assignment, documentation must be provided (i.e., a summons for jury duty, letter on Physicians letterhead stating explicitly why student could not hand in assignment/take exam, etc). This documentation will be verified by contacting the appropriate individuals; be sure to include contact numbers. Once verified, a decision as to how to proceed will be made by the Professor.

## Grading

**Course Grades Distribution Table**

<b>Course Requirements</b>	<b>Number of Items</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Quizzes	10	20%
Midterm Exam	1	20%
Final Exam	1	20%
Term Paper	1	20%
Discussions	3	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>

Letter Grade Distribution Table

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76

Letter Grade Distribution Table

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range%</b>
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

**All assignments and reading will be provided within the modules.  
Assignment due dates can also be seen in the course summary below.**