Course Syllabus

General Information

Professor Information

Instructor: Erin Weston

Phone: (305) 348-1329 Office: DM 322B (MMC)

Office Hours: By Appointment E-mail: Please use Canvas course

messages

Website: http://religion.fiu.edu/faculty/full-

time-faculty/erin-weston/ ☐⇒ (http://religion.fiu.edu/faculty/full-

time-faculty/erin-weston/)

Course Description And Purpose

"Studies in World Religions" is a survey of the major religious traditions of the world. The course is designed to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of these traditions, and to enable students to think sensitively and critically about the religious world. This course will cover general concepts in: the Academic Study of Religion, Indigenous Religious Practices, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Alternative Paths, and Religion and the Modern World. In an effort to create a multifaceted understanding of the myriad ways in which the sacred is expressed, we will be viewing both orthodox and various popular forms of religious expression.

Course Objectives

This course satisfies the University Core Curriculum for Humanities Group Two (FIU required) as supported by the following learning outcomes for our course:

- Students will be able to identify the essential characteristics that distinguish the major religious traditions;
- Students will be able to describe the basic components of each major religious tradition, such as its myths, rituals, doctrines, ethics, and artistic expressions;
- Students will be able to describe religious conflicts and trends in the modern world;
- Students will be able to express ideas and opinions clearly in writing as well as orally;

Professional Skills and Competencies

- · Gather, evaluate, and analyze information
- Develop fact-based conclusions
- Express ideas in a clear and comprehensive manner
- Utilize professional level writing skills in a variety of contexts

Global Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- **Global Awareness:** Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends, and systems.
- Global Perspective: Students will be able to conduct a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural problems.
- Global Engagement: Students will be able to demonstrate willingness to engage in local, global, international, and intercultural problem solving.

This course may satisfy either the Foundations or the Discipline-Specific Global Learning graduation requirements.

Important Information

Policies

Please review the FIU's Policies (http://online.fiu.edu/app/webroot/html/blackboardlearn/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.

Technical Requirements & Skills

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course 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 using a computer. Please go to the "What's Required (https://fiuonline.fiu.edu/experience/what-is-required.php)" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

This course utilizes the following tools:

Instagram

Please visit our <u>Technical Requirements</u> (https://fiuonline.fiu.edu/experience/what-is-required.php) webpage for additional information.

Accessibility And Accommodation

Please visit our **ADA Compliance** ⇒

(http://online.fiu.edu/app/webroot/html/blackboardlearn/mastertemplate/accessibility/) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's Disability Resource Center (http://drc.fiu.edu/).

Covid-19 Policies

Since this is an online course, some of FIU's policies will not impact us directly. The most important thing to note for our class is that if you are diagnosed with Covid-19, please let me know as soon as you can. If you are **asymptomatic**, you should be able to continue to complete your work as scheduled. If you are **symptomatic**, then please make sure to let me know as soon as possible. You will be able to make up your work with a positive Covid-19 test, but please note that *some graded assignments may be given in an alternate format to maintain the integrity of the class content.* We can work out the details on a case-by-case basis. Please stay safe. You can review more on the **Covid-19 policies page (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/pages/covid-19-class-policies)**.

You can contact me directly in the Canvas messages or at eweston@fiu.edu. (mailto:eweston@fiu.edu) Wishing you a good semester. Please stay healthy!

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

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. (http://pantherscare.fiu.edu/)

<u>Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)</u>. ⇒ (http://caps.fiu.edu/) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for sameday appointments. Don't wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Academic Misconduct Statement

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 to 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 Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Learn more about the <u>academic integrity policies and procedures</u> (http://online.fiu.edu/student/resources/policies.php) as well as <u>student resources</u> (http://online.fiu.edu/student/resources/academic-integrity-resources.php) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

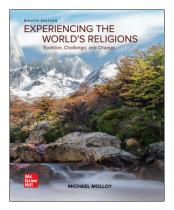
Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Proctored Exam Policy

There are no proctored exams in this course.

Textbook



Experiencing the World's Religions: Tradition, Challenge, and ChangeMichael Molloy

McGraw-Hill Education, 8th Edition, 2021

ISBN-13: 978-1265318901

Panther Book Pack & McGraw Hill Connect

What is Panther Book Pack?

Panther Book Pack is an affordable course materials program providing all undergraduate students with their required course materials by the first day of class at a fixed rate of \$20 per credit hour. Students are estimated to save as much as \$375 on course materials per semester with the Panther Book Pack program.

While you are automatically enrolled for the Panther Book Pack at the time that you register for classes, you may opt out if you do not wish to participate. We encourage you to compare pricing before you do. If you've done the research and still don't think that the Panther Book Pack is the right fit for you, you can opt out through the MyFIU portal from the day you receive your Panther Book Pack email until three days after the add/ drop date on the Academic Calendar (https://onestop.fiu.edu/academic-calendar/) for that term. Please note: The Panther Book Pack program is designed to be an all-in or all-out solution by session for the lowest flat rate possible. Participation is by session for all courses, not by individual course, therefore participation in some courses but not others in each session is not possible.

For more information regarding Panther Book Pack, please visit https://shop.fiu.edu/bookpack-2/ (https://shop.fiu.edu/bookpack-2/.

How does Panther Book Pack work with Connect?

Since students are automatically opted in to participate in Panther Book Pack, all students will receive codeless "temporary access" to Connect on day one of class through Canvas.

For instructions on how to register for Connect through Canvas, please watch this video:

Students who remain opted in will have an active Connect license for the remainder of the semester. No further action is needed.

If students choose to opt out of Panther Book Pack, their Connect access will be revoked shortly after the add/drop period ends. At that time, the students will need to purchase a Connect access code as one will be required in order to regain access. If a student loses access to Connect, their work will be saved.

Who to contact for support?

Questions related to Panther Book Pack should be directed to Barnes & Noble by emailing bookpack@fiu.edu or calling 305-348-2961. Questions related to Connect should be directed to McGraw Hill Customer Support by calling 1-800-331-5094.

Important Note: To successfully view the online videos in this class, you will need a high-speed Internet

connection. If you only have dial-up Internet, you will need to visit one of the FIU computer labs to download and watch the videos.

Expectations Of This Course

This is an online course, meaning that most of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as for a traditional course; in fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills that can make them 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 will be responsible for all materials covered in class. Exams may include any and all of the aforementioned materials.

Students are expected to:

- Review the how to get started information located in the course content
- Introduce yourself to the class during the first week by posting a self introduction in the appropriate discussion forum
- Take the practice quiz to ensure that your computer is compatible with Canvas.
- Interact online with instructor/s and peers
- Review and follow the course calendar
- Log in to the course at least 5 times per week
- Respond to discussion boards, blogs and journal postings by the deadline.
- Respond to [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 blogs and journal postings within 1 week.
- Respond to [emails/messages] within 3 days or sooner.
- Grade assignments within 2 weeks of the assignment deadline.

Course Detail

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via Messages.

Messages is a private and secure text-based communication system which occurs within a course among its Course members. Users must log on to Canvas to send, receive, or read messages. The Messages tool is located on the Course Menu, on the left side of the course webpage. It is recommended that students check their messages routinely to ensure up-to-date communication.

This is the best method to communicate with your instructor privately.

Visit our <u>Writing Resources</u> ⇒

(http://online.fiu.edu/app/webroot/html/blackboardlearn/resources/writing_resources/) webpage for more information on professional writing and technical communication skills.

Assignments

Assignments in this course include the introduce yourself video blog, weekly blogs, quizzes, exams, Instagram assignments, group wiki assignments, iPeer group evaluations, and a contemporary applied analysis term paper. For assignment instructions, please view the https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/pages/assignment-instructions) page.

Grading

Course Requirements	# of Items	Weight
Quizzes	12	10%
Introduce Yourself Video Blog	1	2%
Weekly Blog - (1 lowest grade dropped)	12	15%
McGraw-Hill LearnSmart Assignments	12	5%
Instagram Assignment discussion	3	5%
Paper Proposal	1	1%
First Draft Paper	1	5%
Peer Reviews	3	5%
Final Research Paper	1	10%

Group Wiki Project - (50% Final content / 50% iPeer grade)	2	10%
Wiki Sign up	1	1%
Wiki Site Map & Group Leader	1	1%
Midterm Exam	1	15%
Final Exam	1	15%
Total	52	100%

Letter	Range	Letter	Range	Letter	Range
Α	Above 95	В	83 - 86	С	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	< 59

Course Calendar

Weekly Schedule

Date	Торіс	Activities
	WELCOME - COURSE INTRODUCTION	
	Topic: Understanding Religion	
	Read	
WEEK 1	Course IntroductionReview and fully familiarize yourself with the	Due: Work ahead complete Lesson 1
January 9 - 17	course and site. Print and read the course syllabus and course calendar.	Student Introduction

	 Powerpoint Chapter 1 – Understanding Religion Videos 1. Introduction to Religious Studies 	Video Blog
WEEK 2 January 16 - 23	Topic: Indigenous Religions PowerPoint Indigenous Religions Read Chapter 2 – Indigenous Religions Videos 1. The Men of the Fifth World	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 1 2. LearnSmart Chapter 2 3. Quiz 1 4. Quiz 2 5. Blog 1 6. Blog 2
WEEK 3 January 23 - 30	Topic: Hinduism PowerPoint Hinduism Read Chapter 3 – Hinduism Videos Religions of the World: Hinduism Indus Valley Civilization: Crash Course World History #2 Birth of Krishna	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 3 2. Quiz 3 3. Weekly Blog
	Topic: Buddhism PowerPoint • Buddhism Read	Due

WEEK 4 January 30 - February 6	 Chapter 4 - Buddhism Videos 1. The Life of Buddha 2. Buddha and Ashoka: Crash Course World History #6 	 LearnSmart Chapter 4 Quiz 4 Weekly Blog Paper Proposal
WEEK 5 February 6 - 13	 Topic: Jainism & Sikhism PowerPoint Jainism & Sikhism Read Chapter 5 – Jainism & Sikhism Videos Minute Faith: Jainism The Story of Mahavira: Jainism & the Practice of Ahmisa An Interfaith Journey: Exploring Sikh Dharam 	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 5 2. Quiz 5 3. Weekly Blog 4. Instagram Post 5. Wiki Sign-up
WEEK 6 February 13 - 21	 Topic: Daoism & Confucianism PowerPoint Daoism & Confucianism Read Chapter 6 – Daoism & Confucianism Videos 1. 2,000 Years of Chinese History! The Mandate of Heaven and Confucius: World History #7 2. Life of Confucius 	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 6 2. Quiz 6 3. Weekly Blog

	Topic: Shinto	
	PowerPoint	
WEEK 7	• Shinto	Due
February 20 - 27	Read Chanter 7 Chinte	LearnSmart Chapter 7
Goes into Spring Break	Chapter 7 – Shinto Videos	2. Quiz 73. Weekly Blog
	1. Religion's of the world Shinto parts 1 - 4	
WEEK 8		
February 27 - March 6		Due
Covers Spring Break - Work Ahead if you won't be able to study over the break.	Midterm Exam	1. Midterm Exam
	Topic: Judaism Part I	
	PowerPoint	
	Judaism	
WEEK 9	Read	Due: Work Ahead
March 6 -13	Chapter 8 – Judaism – Part 1	Due. Work Arieau
	Videos	
	 Judaism Part 1 - 5 Judaism: Inside the Torah - National Geographic 	
	Topic: Judaism Part II	
	PowerPoint	Due
	Judaism	1. LearnSmart
WEEK 10	Read	Chapter 8 2. Quiz 8

March 13 - 20	 Chapter 8 – Judaism - Part 2 Videos 1. Judaism Part 1 - 5 2. Judaism: Inside the Torah - National Geographic 	3. Weekly Blog4. Instagram Post5. Initial Research Paper
WEEK 11 March 20 - 27	 Topic: Christianity Part I PowerPoint Christianity Read Chapter 9 – Christianity Part 1 Videos Christianity from Judaism to Constantine: Crash Course World History #11 Religions of the World: Orthodox and Roman Catholic Christianity Religions of the World: Protestant Christianity 	Due 1. Weekly Blog 2. Wiki Site Map & Group Leader
WEEK 12 March 27 - April 3	 Topic: Christianity Part II PowerPoint Christianity Part 2 Read Chapter 9 – Christianity Part 2 Videos Christianity from Judaism to Constantine: Crash Course World History #11 Religions of the World: Orthodox and Roman Catholic Christianity Religions of the World: Protestant Christianity 	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 9 2. Quiz 9 3. Weekly Blog 4. Paper Peer Review

	Topic: Islam	
	PowerPoint	
	• Islam	Due
WEEK 13	Read	LearnSmart Chapter 10
April 3 - 10	Chapter 10 – Islam	2. Quiz 10
April 3 - 10	 Videos Religions of the World Islam Islam and Politics: Crash Course World History 216 Islam, the Qur'an, the Five Pillars All Without a Flamewar: Crash Course World History #13 	3. Weekly Blog4. Final ResearchPaper Due
WEEK 14 April 10 -17	Topic: Alternative Paths PowerPoint • Alternative Paths Read • Chapter 11 — Alternative Paths Videos 1. What is Wicca - Religion for Breakfast	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 11 2. Quiz 11 3. Weekly Blog
WEEK 15 April 17 - 24	Topic: The Modern Search PowerPoint The Modern Search Read Chapter 12 – The Modern Search Videos 1. Religion: Crash Course Sociology #39	Due 1. LearnSmart Chapter 12 2. Quiz 12 3. Weekly Blog 4. Group Wiki Due 5. Wiki iPeer Evaluation

		Due
WEEK 16		1. Final Exam
	Final Exam	2. Final Instagram
April 24 - 29		Post
•		3. Global Learning
		Quiz

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Tue Jan 17, 2023	Introduce Yourself Video Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029762)	due by 11:59pm
	Chapter 2: Indigenous Religions (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029767)	due by 11:59pm
	Chapter 1: Understanding Religion (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029766)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 23, 2023	EN Lesson 1 - Understanding Religion Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029760)	due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 2 – Indigenous Religions Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029759)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm

	Chapter 3: Hinduism (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029768)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 30, 2023		due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 3 – Hinduism Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029758)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
Mar. Fal. 0, 2000	Chapter 4: Buddhism (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029769)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 6, 2023	Lesson 4 – Buddhism Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029757)	due by 11:59pm
	Paper Proposal (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029782)	due by 11:59pm
	Chapter 5: Jainism and Sikhism (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029770)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 13, 2023	Lesson 5 – Jainism & Sikhism Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029756)	due by 11:59pm
	Wiki Group Sign-Up (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029786)	due by 11:59pm
	Instagram Assignment - Post 1 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029778)	due by 11:59pm
	p Instagram Discussion Board - Lesson 5	to do: 11:59pm
	Chapter 6: Daoism and Confucianism (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029771)	due by 11:59pm

Tue Feb 21, 2023	© Confucianism & Daoism Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029744)	due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 6 – Daoism & Confucianism Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029755)	due by 11:59pm
	Chapter 7: Shinto (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029772)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 27, 2023	Lesson 7 – Shinto Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029754)	due by 11:59pm
	Shinto Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029735)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 6, 2023	Midterm Exam (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029733)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 7, 2023	Mid-Semester Grade (UCC Requirement) (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2003324)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 13, 2023	Confucianism & Daoism Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029744) (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
	Shinto Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029735) (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
	Chapter 8: Judaism (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029773)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 8 – Judaism Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029753)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 20, 2023	Initial Research Paper Submission/Peer-Review Submission (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029777)	due by 11:59pm

	Instagram Assignment - Post 2 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029779)	due by 11:59pm
	Instagram Discussion Board - Lesson 8	to do: 11:59pm
Mon Mar 27, 2023	Lesson 9 – Christianity Blog 1 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029752)	due by 11:59pm
	Wiki Site Map & Group Leader (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029787)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 3, 2023		due by 11:59pm
	hapter 9: Christianity (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029776)	due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 9 - Christianity Blog 2 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029751)	due by 11:59pm
	Research Paper Peer Review (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029784)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 10, 2023	Chapter 10: Islam (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029763)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 10 – Islam Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029750)	due by 11:59pm
	Research Paper Final Submission (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029783)	due by 11:59pm
	Alternative Paths Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029746)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 17, 2023	Chapter 11: Alternative Paths (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029764)	due by 11:59pm

	Lesson 11 – Alternative Paths Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029749)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 24, 2023	Chapter 12: The Modern Search (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029765)	due by 11:59pm
	Lesson 12 – The Modern Search Blog (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029748)	due by 11:59pm
	Modern Search Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029743)	due by 11:59pm
	Group Wiki Project (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029761)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Apr 29, 2023	Extra Credit Assignment (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029774)	due by 11:59pm
	SLO (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029785)	due by 11:59pm
	Global Learning Quiz (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029747)	due by 11:59pm
		due by 11:59pm
	Instagram Assignment - Post 3 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2029780)	due by 11:59pm
	্যা Instagram Discussion Board - Final	to do: 11:59pm
	Wiki Group Eval (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/158224/assignments/2250326)	