

FIU Department of Religious Studies
Studies in World Religions
REL 3308 Section 6
Spring 2013

Course Description

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

Course Objectives

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

Required Reading

Textbook

- *Experiencing the World's Religions* by Michael Molloy, 5th Edition

Instructor Information

Name	Miss Jennell Botello
Class Hours	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00am – 10:50am
Class Room	PC 213
Email	jbotel01@fiu.edu
Turnitin.com	<u>Class ID #:</u> 5928059 <u>Class Password:</u> religion13

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

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

Course Requirements

Test 1	20%
Test 2	20%
Test 3	20%
Term Paper	15%
Journal	15%
Attendance	10%

Grading Scale

93-100	A	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F
90-92	A-	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D		
		80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-		

Course Policies

Test 1

The first test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The test focuses on the first part of the semester, which will be Religions of Japan and China.

*****No Make Ups*****

Test 2

The second test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The second test is non-cumulative and will cover material covered after the first exam: Religions of India.

*****No Make Ups*****

Test 3

The third test (20%) will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions, true and false questions, and a matching section. The third test is non-cumulative and will cover material covered after the second exam: Religions of The Middle East.

*****No Make Ups*****

Term Paper

Students will turn in a term paper worth (15%) of the overall grade. The term paper must be a minimum of 8 pages and no more than 10 pages in length, excluding the bibliography or works cited page and the cover page. This paper is formal and must be typed, *not hand-written*, in Times New Roman font size 12 and double-spaced. The margins should be 1-inch on all sides. *APA, MLA, and Chicago Manual Style* will be accepted. The students will be emailed more detailed instructions during the first week of class. This paper will also be submitted to www.turnitin.com.

Journal

Students will turn in a journal worth (15%) of the overall grade. The journal is an assignment in which the student reports on current events in the news that involve religion and societies around the world. The student will be required to have ten entries by the end of the semester; 3 for January, 3 for February, and 4 for March. The student will cut out or print the article, place it inside a binder or a duo-tang folder, and write a two page summary and reflection about the article. The journal entries must be typed and double spaced. The journals will be collected towards the end of the semester.

Attendance

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

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

Extra Credit (Movie Review)

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

Syllabus

1. [Monday – January 7] Introduction: Syllabus, Requirements
2. [Wednesday – January 9] Hinduism
3. [Friday – January 11] Hinduism
4. [Monday – January 14] Hinduism
5. [Wednesday – January 16] Hinduism
6. [Friday – January 18] Hinduism
7. [Monday – January 21] **Martin Luther King Holiday (No School)**
8. [Wednesday – January 23] Buddhism

9. [Friday – January 25] Buddhism
10. [Monday – January 28] Buddhism
11. [Wednesday – January 30] Buddhism
12. [Friday – February 1] Buddhism
13. [Monday – February 4] Jainism
14. [Wednesday – February 6] Jainism
15. [Friday – February 8] Jainism
16. [Monday – February 11] **Test 1**
17. [Wednesday – February 13] Daoism
18. [Friday – February 15] Daoism
19. [Monday – February 18] Daoism
20. [Wednesday – February 20] Confucianism
21. [Friday – February 22] Confucianism
22. [Monday – February 25] Confucianism
23. [Wednesday – February 27] Shinto
24. [Friday – March 1] Shinto
25. [Monday – March 4] Shinto
Term Paper
26. [Wednesday – March 6] Shinto
27. [Friday – March 8] Shinto
28. [Monday – March 11] **Spring Break**
29. [Wednesday – March 13] **Spring Break**
30. [Friday – March 15] **Spring Break**
31. [Monday – March 18] **Test 2**

32. [Wednesday – March 20] Zoroastrianism

33. [Friday – March 22] Zoroastrianism

34. [Monday – March 25] Judaism

35. [Wednesday – March 27] Judaism

36. [Friday – March 29] Judaism

37. [Monday – April 1] Judaism
Journals Due (A-L)

38. [Wednesday – April 3] Judaism
Journals Due (M-Z)

39. [Friday – April 5] Islam

40. [Monday – April 8] Islam
Extra Credit Due

41. [Wednesday – April 10] Islam

42. [Friday – April 12] Islam

43. [Monday – April 15] **Test 3**

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

Plagiarism

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

Additional Information

1. Students are encouraged to keep a copy of all papers submitted to the instructor.
2. MLA, APA, and Chicago writing styles are accepted for the written assignments.
3. The University's last day to drop courses or withdraw without incurring a financial liability is **Monday January 14.**
4. Last day to withdraw from the University with a 25% refund of tuition is **Friday February 1**
5. Deadline to drop a course with a DR grade is **Monday March 18**