

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

### **Course: RL 101 Perspectives on Religion**

**Credits: 3**

### **Prerequisites**

EN 101

### **Description**

This course explains the functions of religion and describes the fundamental nature of diverse religious systems. Specific topics considered include sacredness, symbolization, myth, evil and salvation.

### **Learning Outcomes**

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify and describe the essential characteristics of religious concepts and their impact on culture and society.
- Describe the role of religious feelings, ideas and actions within the worldviews of multiple belief systems.
- Distinguish similarities and differences in myth, doctrine, ethics and organization.
- Discuss the issues of religious dialogue in a pluralistic society.

### **Related General Education Outcomes**

#### **Humanistic Perspective (A&H)**

- Students will describe commonly used approaches and criteria for analyzing works.
- Students will analyze works and applying commonly used approaches and criteria.

### **Topical Outline**

- Definition of Religion
- Space and Time
- Symbols and Myth
- Doctrines
- Society and the Sacred
- Rituals
- Concepts of the Divine
- Cosmogony
- Anthropology
- Theodicy
- Ethics
- Salvation and Liberation
- Sacred and Secular in Modernity

## **Required Texts and Other Materials**

Anatomy of the Sacred: An Introduction to Religion by James C. Livingston, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition:  
Prentice Hall.

## **Student Assessment**

Will be based on a combination of quizzes, exams, homework, oral presentations, written papers and class participation.

## **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation.

Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense.

As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Available Resources**

If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600, x1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

**(List availability of open labs and/or writing center)**

## **Before Withdrawing From This Course**

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.