

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: RL 102 World Religions

Credits: 3

Prerequisites

EN 101

Description

This course presents an introduction to the major religions of the world. Utilizing both a descriptive and interpretative approach, the origin and historical development of each religion is examined with attention given to the beliefs, and practices and social structures. The survey includes Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Learning Outcomes

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

- Describe the essential characteristics of religion.
- Describe a general framework for analyzing (a) religious thought, (b) religious practice, and (c) religious fellowship.
- Apply the framework to the major religions being studied.
- Identify the similarities and dissimilarities of the major religions.

Related General Education Outcomes

Global & Cultural Awareness (Diversity)

- Students will link cultural practices and perspectives with geographic and/or historical conditions from which they arose.
- Students will recognize and explain the possible consequences of prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory actions.

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

- Fundamental Features of Religion
- Periods in Religious History
- Prehistoric and Tribal Religions
- Shamanism
- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- Confucianism
- Monotheism
- Judaism
- Christianity

- Islam

Required Texts and Other Materials

Many Peoples, Many Faiths: Women and Men in the World Religions by Ellwood, Robert S. and McGraw, Barbara A., 10th Edition:Prentice Hall

Student Assessment

The student's learning assessment will be based on in-class exams that will cover the readings, class discussions, lecture notes, and handouts. A final project will be due that assesses the student's ability to understand and apply the theoretical, sociological and practical framework to a new situation. Participation in class discussions, group exercises and panel discussions are also included in the semester's evaluation. Each student is responsible for keeping an academically focused reflective journal during the semester. Additional student work which will provide evaluation of student learning includes attending a religious service and watching popular movies to identify religious themes.

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.