

	<p style="text-align: center;"> School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT REL 102 World Religions of the East Quarter or Semester/Year </p>
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REL 102, World Religions of the East
Fall, 2010

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 pm -2:30 pm Wednesdays, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm		
Office	Young 312		
Phone	(250) 370-3951		
Email	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		

Course Schedule:

Lectures: Mondays, 2:30 pm – 4:20 pm, WT-103

Seminars: Wednesdays, Group A: 2:30 pm – 3:20 pm, WT-103

Group B: 3:30 pm – 4:20 pm, WT-103

Calendar description: An introductory survey of Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Chinese religions, and Shinto, this course explores the sources, beliefs (including representative texts), and practices of these religions. The traditions of each will be studied in their cultural and political contexts from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Intended Learning Outcomes: by the end of this course the student should be able to

1. Explain the contexts/historical settings in which Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Chinese religions (Confucianism, Taoism), and Shintoism arose.
2. List major dates, events, and places central to each.
3. Describe the historical linkage/relationships among them.
4. Summarize their major beliefs, teachings, ideals, and practices.
5. Explain variations/splits/divisions in each tradition.
6. Analyze their similarities/differences.
7. Compare/contrast various elements in Eastern religions.
8. Evaluate their relationship to and impact on the world today.

Text: Living Religions: Eastern Traditions, Mary Pat Fisher, Prentice Hall

Course Requirements:

3 tests: 45% (15% each)

final exam (cumulative): 30% (date tba, final exam period)

seminar participation/groupwork: 10%

compare and contrast paper: 10% (due Dec.1)

discussion leader/facilitator: 5%

Reading Assignments

Week 1: Why Are There Religions? Chapter 1

09/08 Introduction, The Religious Response, p.12-39

Week 2: Hinduism, Chapter 2

09/13 Vedic Religion, Karma, Castes, Spiritual Disciplines, p.41-64

09/15 Major Theistic Cults p.64-71

Week 3: Hinduism, Chapter 2 cont.

09/20 Major Philosophical Systems, Popular Forms of Worship, p.71-81

09/22 Hinduism in the Modern World, p.81-89, Review

Week 4: Jainism, Chapter 3

09/27 **TEST #1** on Hinduism

09/29 Tirthankaras, Spiritual Practices, World Jainism, p.90-102

Week 5: Buddhism, Chapter 4

10/04 The Life of the Buddha, The Dharma, Eightfold Path, p.103-116

10/06 Buddhism South and North, p.117-125

Week 6: Buddhism, Chapter 4 cont.

10/11 No class - Thanksgiving

10/13 Mahayana, Zen, p.125-136, Pure Land, Buddhism in the West, Socially Engaged Buddhism, p.136-149, Review

Week 7: Sikhism, Chapter 5

10/18 **TEST #2** on Jainism and Buddhism

10/20 The Sant Tradition, Guru Nanak, The Succession of Gurus, p.150-158

Week 8: Sikhism, Chapter 5

10/25 Central Beliefs, Sacred Practices, 159-166

10/27 Sikhism Today, p.166-170

Week 9: Taoism, Chapter 6

11/01 Ancient Traditions, Taoism – The Way of Nature and Immortality, p.171-178

11/03 Organized Taoism, p.179-183

Week 10: Taoism, Chapter 6 cont.

11/08 Taoism Today, p.184-185

11/10 Review for test #3

Week 11: Confucianism, Chapter 6 cont.

11/15 **TEST #3** on Sikhism and Taoism

11/17 Confucianism – The Practice of Virtue, p.186-193

Week 12: Confucianism, Chapter 6 cont.

11/22 Confucianism Under Communism, p.193-196

11/24 Living Confucianism, p.197-199

Week 13: Shinto, Chapter 7

11/29 The Essence of Shinto, Buddhist and Confucian Influences, p.200-211

12/01 Shinto Today, p.211-214, **PAPER DUE**

Week 14: Religion in the Twenty-First Century, Chapter 8

12/06 Religious Pluralism, New Religious Movements, Hardening of Religious Movement, p.215-222

Boundaries, Interfaith

12/08 Review for final exam

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED