



COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 am -11:30 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm		
Office	Young 312		
Phone	(250) 370-3951		
Email	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		

Course Schedule:

Lectures: Mondays, 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm, Y 303C

Seminars: Wednesdays, Group A: 3:00 pm – 3:50 pm, F 306

Group B: 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm, F 306

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 attendance: 10%

compare and contrast paper: 10%

presentation: 5%

Reading Assignments

Week 1: Why Are There Religions? Chapter 1

1/5 Introduction

1/7 Discussion of chapter 1

Week 2: Hinduism, Chapter 2

1/12 Vedic Religion, Karma, Castes, Spiritual Disciplines, p.41-64

1/14 Discussion of Hinduism, Major Theistic Cults p.64-71

Week 3: Hinduism, Chapter 2 cont.

1/19 Major Philosophical Systems, Popular Forms of Worship, p.71-81

1/21 Discussion of Hinduism, Hinduism in the Modern World, p.81-89, Review

Week 4: Jainism, Chapter 3

1/26 **TEST #1** on Hinduism (and chapter 1), after the test, overview of Jainism

1/28 Discussion of Jainism, Tirthankaras, Spiritual Practices, World Jainism, p.90-102

Week 5: Buddhism, Chapter 4

2/2 Jainism cont., The Life of the Buddha, The Dharma, Eightfold Path, p.103-116

2/4 Discussion of Buddhism, Buddhism South and North, p.117-125, Mahayana, p.125-132

Week 6: Buddhism, Chapter 4 cont.

2/9 no class - Family day

2/11 Discussion of Zen Buddhism, p.132-136, p.142-143

Week 7: Buddhism, Chapter 4 cont.

2/16 Buddhism in the West, Socially Engaged Buddhism, p.136-149

2/18 Discussion of Buddhism, Review for test #2

Week 8: Sikhism, Chapter 5

2/23 **TEST #2** on Jainism and Buddhism, after the test, overview of Sikhism

2/25 Discussion of Sikhism

Week 9: Sikhism, Chapter 5

3/2 Central Beliefs, Sacred Practices, 159-166

3/4 Discussion of Sikhism, Sikhism Today, p.166-170

Week 10: Taoism, Chapter 6

3/9 Ancient Traditions, Taoism – The Way of Nature and Immortality, p.171-178, Organized Taoism, p.179-183

3/11 Discussion of Taoism, Taoism Today, p.184-185, Review for test #3

Week 11: Confucianism, Chapter 6

3/16 **TEST #3** on Sikhism and Taoism, after the test - documentary on the life of Confucius

3/18 Discussion of Confucianism, Confucianism – The Practice of Virtue, p.186-193

Week 12: Confucianism, Chapter 6 cont.

3/23 Confucianism Under Communism, p.193-196

3/25 Discussion of Confucianism, Living Confucianism, p.197-199

Week 13: Shinto, Chapter 7

3/30 The Essence of Shinto, Buddhist and Confucian Influences, p.200-211

4/1 Discussion of Shinto, Shinto Today, p.211-214

Week 14: Shinto, Chapter 7 cont.

4/6 no class - Easter

4/8 Review for final exam

Policy on missed tests: Make-up tests are permitted in cases of illness or personal crisis only. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

Cell phones: cell phones must be turned off and put away during class time.

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, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

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. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
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.

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