



*School of Arts & Science
Humanities*

**REL 102, World Religions of the East
Fall, 2017
COURSE OUTLINE**

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 12:30-1:30 pm		
Office	Young 312		
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Course Schedule:

Lectures: Tuesdays, 2:30 pm – 4:20 pm, F 202

Seminars: Thursdays, 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 attendance/class group work: 10%
compare and contrast paper: 10% (due on day of final exam)
seminar facilitator: 5%

Reading Assignments

Week 1: Introduction, Chapter 1

9/5 Introduction
9/7 Discussion of chapter 1

Week 2: Hinduism, Chapter 2

9/12 Hinduism, p.41-58
9/14 Seminar: Discussion of Hinduism

Week 3: Hinduism, Chapter 2 cont.

9/19 Hinduism, p.64-81, 87-89
9/21 Seminar: Discussion of Hinduism

Week 4: Test Week/Jainism, Chapter 3

9/26 **TEST #1** on chapter 1 (p.12-26 only) and Hinduism
9/28 Seminar: Discussion of Jainism

Week 5: Jainism, Chapter 3 cont.

10/3 Jainism, all of chapter 3
10/5 Seminar: Discussion of Jainism

Week 6: Buddhism, Chapter 4

10/10 Zen Buddhism
10/12 Seminar: Mindfulness exercises

Week 7: Buddhism, Chapter 4 cont.

10/17 Buddhism, p.103-116
10/19 Seminar: Discussion of Buddhism

Week 8: Buddhism, Chapter 4 cont.

10/24 Buddhism, p.125-132, 134, 136
10/26 Seminar: Discussion of Buddhism

Week 9: Test Week/Sikhism, Chapter 5

10/31 **TEST #2** on Jainism and Buddhism
11/2 Seminar: Discussion of Sikhism

Week 10: Sikhism, Chapter 5

11/7 Sikhism, all of chapter 5

11/9 Seminar: discussion of Sikhism

Week 11: Taoism, Chapter 6

11/14 Taoism, p.171-182

11/16 Seminar: Discussion of Taoism

Week 12: Test Week/Confucianism, Chapter 6

11/21 **Test #3 on Sikhism and Taoism**

11/23 Seminar: Discussion of Confucianism

Week 13: Confucianism, Chapter 6

11/28 Confucianism – p.186-196

11/30 Seminar: Discussion of Confucianism

Week 14: Shinto, Chapter 7

12/5 Shinto, p.200-211

12/7 Seminar: Discussion of Shinto

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.

Grading System: the following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+	90-100%
A	85-89%
A-	80-84%
B+	77-79%
B	73-76%
B-	70-72%
C+	65-69%
C	60-64%
D	50-59%
F	0-49%

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.