



COURSE OUTLINE: PCS303 - RELIGIONS OF WORLD

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Approved: Martha Irwin, Chair, Community Services and Interdisciplinary Studies

Course Code: Title	PCS303: RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD
Program Number: Name	1105: GAS - ONE-YEAR 1115: GAS-UNIV TRANSFER
Department:	PEACE AND CONFLICT
Semesters/Terms:	20W
Course Description:	This course will provide a comprehensive survey of a wide range of religious traditions, both Eastern and Western, including Tribal Religions, Religions of Ancient Civilizations, Hindu, Jewish, Buddhist, Confucian, Taoist, Christian, Islamic, Atheist, Marxist and Existentialist. Students will examine the rich historical, cultural, and theological background of each tradition in terms of its original founders, views on nature, self, society and ultimate reality. Each religious tradition will be approached in an analytical and philosophical manner which will allow students to identify with and to maintain a distance from each of the traditions covered. The course will emphasize clarity, critical thinking and argumentation in an effort to gain an appreciation for the textual roots, fundamental concerns, similarities and differences of each religious tradition.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	45
Prerequisites:	There are no pre-requisites for this course.
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	OEL1082
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	<p>1105 - GAS - ONE-YEAR</p> <p>VLO 1 Develop, through general knowledge gained in a wide range of subjects, insight into both self and society.</p> <p>VLO 2 Develop flexibility and clarity of both thought and expression in order to develop communications competence to a level required by business and industry.</p> <p>VLO 3 Understand and utilize critical thinking processes and problem solving techniques.</p> <p>VLO 4 Examine and evaluate various aspects of our changing society to assist in developing a sense of personal and social responsibility as a citizen in society.</p> <p>VLO 5 Employ basic vocational skills drawn from the areas of the Humanities, Social and Behavioural Sciences of Vocational Studies (Business, Technology).</p> <p>1115 - GAS-UNIV TRANSFER</p> <p>VLO 1 Develop, through general knowledge gained in a wide range of subjects, insight into both self and society.</p> <p>VLO 2 Develop flexibility and clarity of both thought and expression in order to develop communications competence to a level required by business and industry.</p> <p>VLO 3 Understand and utilize critical thinking processes and problem solving techniques.</p>

Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.



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	VLO 4	Examine and evaluate various aspects of our changing society to assist in developing a sense of personal and social responsibility as a citizen in society.
	VLO 5	Employ basic vocational, skills drawn from the areas of the Humanities, Social and Behavioural Sciences of Vocational Studies (Business, Technology).
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	EES 1	Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.
	EES 2	Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.
	EES 5	Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.
	EES 6	Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.
	EES 7	Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.
	EES 8	Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.
	EES 9	Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.
	EES 10	Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.
	EES 11	Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.

General Education Themes: Social and Cultural Understanding

Course Evaluation: Passing Grade: 50%,

Books and Required Resources: The World’s Religions: Our Great Wisdom Traditions by Huston Smith
 Publisher: HarperOne Edition: 50th anniversary ed.
 ISBN: 9780061660184
 Additional Resource Materials, Handouts, Video, etc., (provided by the professor)

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
Identify and describe some of the most influential religious figures, scriptures, and practices.	1.1 Define basic terminology from each religious system of thought. 1.2 Summarize essential elements and nonviolent practices from each tradition. 1.3 Discuss the connection between inherent values and the fundamental concepts within each worldview. 1.4 Outline the founders and movements from each religion.
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
Explain religion’s importance on the development of civilization.	2.1 Describe how religious teachings can shape a culture 2.2 Discuss how religious worldviews can impact the social and political spheres of society, as well as the environment. 2.3 Analyze the impact religion has on artistic expression. 2.4 Discuss how religion influences gender roles.
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
Analyze and evaluate various religious beliefs and practices.	3.1 Examine various views on nature, self and society. 3.2 Compare and contrast conceptions of ultimate reality. 3.3 Consider some of the similarities and differences between worldviews.

	3.4 Argue, in oral and written form, the strengths and weaknesses of each tradition.
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
Consider the present and future role that religion has in the world.	4.1 Examine the influence that religion has on individual and social behaviour. 4.2 Assess the impact religion has on personal, mental, emotional, physical and wellbeing. 4.3 Critique the use of religious ideologies to justify conflicts, violence, and the marginalization of various peoples. 4.4 Evaluate atheistic arguments against the importance of religion and existence of God.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Activities / Assignments	20%
Major Project	30%
Tests / Exams	50%

Date:

July 26, 2019

Addendum:

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

