

South Central College

PHIL 105 World Religions

Common Course Outline

Course Information

Description This course is a basic introduction to the major world religions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It also explores related issues in the Philosophy of Religion. (Prerequisite: Must have a score of 78 or higher on Accuplacer reading comprehension test or completion of READ 0090.) MNTC 6, 8: Humanities and Fine Arts, Global Perspective.

Total Credits 4

Total Hours 64

Linked External Standards

8b - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.

Learning Objectives

Define inclusivist, exclusivist, pluralist and skeptical perspectives on religions

Indicate the implication each view has for understanding world religions

Explain which perspective one holds and how that relates to one's broader worldview.

4. Examine the relationship between science and religion.

Linked External Standards

8a - Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.

8b - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.

Learning Objectives

Describe the difference between a scientific and religious approach to obtaining knowledge.

Identify possible ways in which science and religion can relate.

Articulate one's own view on the proper relationship between science and religion.

Explain the concepts of "miracles" and "religious experiences" and evaluate arguments for and against them.

Explain the place of Buddhists in the American religious landscape.

7. Recognize the fundamental elements of the Chinese religious worldview.

Linked External Standards

6a - Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

6e - Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

8a - Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.

8b - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.

Learning Objectives

Summarize the general outline of the religious history of China.

Identify the basic beliefs, doctrines and rituals of Confucianism, Taoism and Chinese Folk Religion.

Recognize the diversity of Chinese religious beliefs, practices and rituals.

Describe the "problems" which Confucianism, Taoism and Chinese Folk Religions address and the range of "solutions" they offer.

Evaluate the doctrines of filial piety and wu-wei and determine one's own view on their value.

Summarize the challenges and controversies facing contemporary Chinese religions, including restrictions imposed by the Communist Party.

8. Recognize the fundamental elements of the Sikh and Zoroastrian worldviews.

Linked External Standards

6a - Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

6e - Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

8a - Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.

8b - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.

Learning Objectives

Summarize the general outline of Sikh and Zoroastrian history.

Identify the basic beliefs, doctrines and rituals of Sikhism and Zoroastrianism.

Describe the "problems" which Sikhism and Zoroastrianism address and the range of "solutions" they offers.

Summarize the challenges and controversies facing contemporary Sikhs and Zoroastrians.

Evaluate the claim that Zoroastrianism had a substantial impact on the development of Jewish beliefs.

Explain the place of Sikhs in the American religious landscape.

9. Recognize the fundamental elements of the Jewish worldview.

Linked External Standards

6a - Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

6e - Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Learning Objectives

Summarize the general outline of Jewish history.

Identify the basic beliefs, doctrines and rituals of Judaism.

Recognize the diversity of Jewish beliefs, practices and rituals.

Describe the "problem" which Judaism addresses and the range of "solutions" it offers.

Evaluate the range of theological responses to the Holocaust.

Summarize the challenges and controversies facing contemporary Judaism, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Explain the place of Jews in the American religious landscape.

10. Analyze the "Problem of Evil" which confronts ethical monotheists.

Learning Objectives

8d - Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

Learning Objectives

Summarize the general outline of Islamic history.

Identify the basic beliefs, doctrines and rituals of Islam.

Recognize the diversity of Islamic beliefs and practices.

Describe the "problem" which Islam addresses and the range of "solutions" it offers.

Evaluate the claims that Islam promotes the oppression of women and encourages more violence than other faiths.

Explain the place of Muslims in the American religious landscape, including the effects of Islamophobia and anti-Muslim prejudice.

14. Describe the development of Atheism, Humanism and Fundamentalism.

Linked External Standards

8b - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.

8c - Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences.