

**RE10390\_10391: World Religions**  
**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU**  
**SUMMER 2026 (CHUUK-INTERNET)**

**CLASS TIME: Weekly**

**INSTRUCTOR: Dean F. McGinnis**

**TUTORING HOURS:**

- **MWF: 8:30-10:20a, 1:00-4:20p**
- **TR: 8:30a-12:20p, 1:30-4:20p**

**CAMPUS OFFICE PHONE: 808-739-7484**

**BOSTON HOME OFFICE: 781-350-5678**

**FAX: 781-350-5628**

**EMAIL: dean.mcginnis@chaminade.edu**

**REQUIRED TEXT(S):**

- Molloy, Michael, *Experiencing The World's Religions, Tradition, Challenge, and Change*, Sixth Edition, McGraw-Hill, 2012 ISBN-13 # 9781121770058
- Access to any "Generally accepted Bible" i.e.: King James, Vulgate, New American, etc.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Within the context of the dialogue between Christianity and the other world religions, the student will explore the diverse historical, philosophical, and spiritual foundations from which the major religious traditions in the world have arisen. The course examines the lives of their founders, their basic teachings, and the historical development of their communities and institutions, while providing an inter-religious survey of ethics.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT:**

Upon completion of this course, students will have attained the ability to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the important elements of the world's major religions;
- Compare and contrast the differences and commonalities among those religious traditions;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the religious issues and conflicts in our contemporary world;
- Demonstrate an understanding of their own beliefs, feelings and attitudes towards different religious perspectives;

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION/INTERACTION REQUIREMENTS:**

Students are expected to attend all classes. Attending all classes is defined as logging on to the website at least once a week. Participation is defined as preparing for, completion of, and participation in, all reading assignments, group discussions and writing assignments given at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be required to respond to at least two of their fellow students' assignments each week via the website. Additional interaction is encouraged but not required.

***Note: It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any specific special needs or difficulties that one may have in order that appropriate strategies for the completion of the work may be mutually developed.***

## **Course Methodology/ WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS:**

Instruction will consist of readings, videos, group discussions, personal reflections and papers. Students will be expected to participate in the group discussions. Weekly assignments will be posted to the website each Sunday evening and should be completed per the schedule.

## **FINAL PAPER:**

The final paper will be a creative 2–4-page paper comparing and contrasting the major religions examined from a personal and ecumenical perspective.

## **FINAL EXAM:**

This will be a comprehensive multiple choice exam and will be administered online within Canvas.

## **GRADING POLICY:**

Grading will be based upon regular class participation, reflection papers, final paper and the final exam as follows:

- CLASS PARTICIPATION/INTERACTION: 25%
- WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS: 25%
- FINAL PAPER: 25%
- FINAL EXAM: 25%

A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: below 60%

- **Incomplete Grades:**

An Incomplete grade may be granted to the student, by the instructor, in accordance with University Policy, due to certain situations which include, but are not limited to:

- Completion of the majority of the coursework as determined by the instructor **and:**
- Documented family emergencies.
- Documented medical issues.
- Documented military orders.

All documentation should be first submitted to the instructor who will review the documentation and either grant the Incomplete or refer it to the appropriate University Official for review. Incompletes are valid for 90 days.

***Please note that there will be several opportunities to obtain extra credit throughout the session. However, any/all extra credit is subject to the instructor's discretion, and will only be applied to your final grade if all assignments are completed.***

**COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to revision):**

**Reading assignments are for the following class(s)/Dates:**

**Part 1: (5/18/2026-5/24/2026)**

Introduction/ Understanding Religion

COMPLETE REQUIRED QUESTIONNAIRE

SUBMIT REQUIRED BIO

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 3-31

**Part 2: (5/25/2026-5/31/2026)**

Indigenous/Oral Religions

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 33-71

**Part 3: (6/1/2026-6/7/2026)**

Hinduism

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 73-121

**Part 4: (6/8/2026-6/14/2026)**

Buddhism

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 123-179

**Part 5: (6/15/2026-6/21/2026)**

Jainism and Sikhism

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 181-203

**Part 6: (6/22/2026-6/28/2026)**

Daoism and Confucianism

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 205-253

**Part 7: (6/29/2024-7/5/2026)**

Shinto and Judaism/Christianity Preview

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 255-279

**Part 8: (7/6/2024-7/12/2026)**

Judaism

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 281-331

**Part 9: (7/13/2026-7/19/2026)**

Christianity

**VIDEO(s) TBD**

**THE MANY VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE HANDOUT**

**Decree on Ecumenism (*Unitatis Redintegratio*) HANDOUT**

Reading assignment: Molloy: pp. 333-405

**Part 10: (7/20/2026-8/7/2026)**

STUDENTS WORK ON REQUIRED FINAL PAPER IN CLASS

Get Caught Up On Any Missing Work

Final Paper Due

Final exam

**CHARACTERISTICS OF A MARIANIST EDUCATION**

Organizational themes refer to underlying structural links that contribute to the choice of content, the pedagogy selected for participation of the teacher/learner and student/teacher in bringing the content to life, and fulfillment of the course objectives within a broader frame of education and building community.

1. The first set of organizational themes around which the course is constructed is drawn from the “Characteristics of Marianist Universities.”
  - - Educate for formation in faith;
    - Provide an integral quality education;

- Educate for family spirit;
  - Educate for service, justice and peace, and integrity of creation; and
  - Educate for adaptation and change.
2. The second major organizational theme is diversity and the complex issues that arise when we look at diversity and its impact on prejudice and violence, specifically in the ways we organize our society that lead us toward a more just and sustainable society. Diversity themes, particularly the role of the “other” are developed in relation to the content of the course as well as in relation to the student/learners who are participants in the course.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA ACCOMMODATIONS):**

Chaminade University of Honolulu offers accommodations for all actively enrolled students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (2008).

Students are responsible for contacting Kokua Ike: Center for Student Learning to schedule an appointment. Verification of their disability will be requested through appropriate documentation and once received it will take up to approximately 2–3 weeks to review them. Appropriate paperwork will be completed by the student before notification will be sent out to their instructors. Accommodation paperwork will not be automatically sent out to instructors each semester, as the student is responsible to notify Kokua Ike via email at [ada@chaminade.edu](mailto:ada@chaminade.edu) each semester if changes or notifications are needed.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (HONESTY):**

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism, in addition to more obvious dishonesty.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of Academic Division and may include an “F” grade for the work in question, an “F” grade for the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University.

For the most up to date information, please refer to the on the Chaminade University Catalog website.

### **TITLE IX AND NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:**

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect

and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. For pregnant and parenting students, I am also obligated to provide you with similar resources for support and protections available to you. My goal is to make sure that you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

### **Hazing Prevention Resources and Athlete Helpline:**

Assists athletes, parents, coaches, and any allies interested in ensuring physical and mental safety for sports communities by offering confidential emotional support, crisis intervention, informational athlete-focused resources, and guidance related to concerns about any type of abuse—including hazing.

Chaminade University's Hazing

Policy: <https://catalog.chaminade.edu/studenthandbook/codeofconduct>Links to an external site.

<https://hazingpreventionnetwork.org/athlete-helpline/>Links to an external site.

<https://hazingpreventionnetwork.org/how-to-report-hazing/>Links to an external site.

**Basic Needs Resources:** <https://chaminade.edu/basic-needs/>Links to an external site.