

Pray

RELIGIONS AND THE HUMAN COMMUNITY (RE 103)

Chaminade University of Honolulu

Spring Evening 1998, Thursdays, Barber's Point 1730-2140

INSTRUCTOR: Achilles S.C. Gacis MA, M.Div. Ph.#539-9376, achilles@lava.net

OVERVIEW:

This survey course will deal primarily with the major religious traditions of the world, and how each belief system provides meaning to being, articulates absolute values, and gives direction to its adherents.

The student will be introduced to the traditions of the Middle-East

(Judaism, Christianity, Islam), South Asia (Hinduism, Buddhism), and East Asia

(Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism). By exploring and examining the phenomena

unique to each tradition (i.e. myth, ritual, scripture, dogma, religious practice, religious

institution) the student will gain an objectively oriented insight into the ways in which

religion(s) have affected and been affected by the human community throughout

history.

REQUIRED TEXT: World Religions. 2nd Ed. Matthews, Warren

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

1 Introductory Exam

1 Mid-Term Exam

1 Final Exam (**NOT** comprehensive of entire semester.)

Attendance will be taken. Failure to attend class carries its own penalty and is reflected on exams. Questions for exams will be from lectures, readings, videos, slide presentations, etc. (vocabulary identification, short answers, multiple choice, T-F, etc.).

COURSE OUTLINE

- Apr **09** Introduction: What is *RELIGION* ? A purposeful definition...
The nature of religious studies. Research methodology.
- 16 *INTRODUCTORY EXAM***
- 23 Semitic Traditions: Judaism**.....Ch.08, p.275
VIDEO (Power of the Word)
Judaism, VIDEO (Dead Sea Scrolls)
- 30 Christianity (033-1453 C.E.)**.....Ch.09, p.324
Christianity (Iconography-Sacred Images VIDEO)
- May **07 Islam**.....Ch.10, p.379
VIDEO (Jerusalem) All three traditions/Review
- 14 *MID-TERM EXAM***
- 21 South-Asian Traditions: Hinduism**.....Ch.03, p.84
VIDEO (Dust and Ashes)
Hinduism VIDEO (Snake Worship)
- 28 Buddhism**.....Ch.04, p.128
Buddhism VIDEOS (Footprint of the Buddha, Satori)
- Jun **04 East Asian Traditions: Taoism**.....Ch.06, p.208
VIDEO (Taoism)
Confucianism
Shintoism VIDEO (Japan: Spirit and Form).....Ch.06, p.235
REVIEW
- 11 *FINAL EXAM*** (*Bring self-addressed, stamped, envelope Large*)