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**Religion 103: Religions and the Human Community**

Spring 2000  
Mon. & Wed. 5:30-9:30

Instructor: Jay Sakashita  
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**Course Objective**

The primary goal of the course is to help students gain a basic understanding of the various beliefs and practices of the world's major religions. Looking at religions both in their early and contemporary forms will enable students to trace the genesis of, and hence place into their proper contexts, some of the important religious issues which confront us today. Religion continues to be a vibrant expression in modern society and an interesting sample of the world's religions can be found in the islands. Students are encouraged to visit temples, churches, and shrines; and experience first-hand some of the more popular religious practitioners on the island to gain a better appreciation of religion.

**Course Requirements**

- Examinations* : Three exams covering material presented in class and textbook. *There will be no make up exams.*
- Religious Group Profile* : A basic profile detailing the major characteristics of a particular religious group on Oahu is required. Fieldwork and secondary source materials must be utilized to help construct your profile. *Late work will not be accepted.*
- Textbook Reading* : Questions based on textbook readings will be assigned periodically.
- Class Presentation* : Discussion of progress and problems, themes and issues, surrounding construction of religious group profile.

**Grading**

Examinations	70%
Religion Profile	15%
Class Presentation	10%
Textbook Questions	5%
Total	100%

Scores of 90% and above will be marked "A", 80% and above "B", 70% and above "C"; and 60% and above "D." Students who fail to complete the assignments before the end of the term may receive an Incomplete grade with instructor permission. Credit/No Credit students will be expected to complete all assignments with a grade of "C" or better to receive credit for this course.

**Textbook Required**

Molloy, Michael. *Experiencing the World's Religions*

## Class Schedule

- Class 1*      **Introduction**  
Definitions, Methodology, Interpretive models  
Discussion
- Class 2*      **Judaism** (*read* Molloy Ch. 8)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 3*      **Christianity** (*read* Molloy Ch. 9)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 4*      **Examination One, Islam** (*read* Molloy Ch. 10)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 5*      **Hinduism** (*read* Molloy Ch. 3)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 6*      **Sikhism** (*read* Molloy Ch. 5)  
Video, history, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 7*      **Examination Two, Buddhism** (*read* Molloy Ch. 4)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution
- Class 8*      **Chinese Religions** (*read* Molloy Ch. 6)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution  
Presentations
- Class 9*      **Japanese Religions** (*read* Molloy Ch. 7)  
History, scripture, ritual, teachings, institution  
Textbook Questions due  
Presentations
- Class 10*     **Examination Three, New Religions** (*read* Molloy Ch. 11)  
Religious Group Profiles due  
Presentations, Summary

*Syllabus is tentative and subject to change.*