

SE '00
PMSSYLLABUS

Religion 10390
Religions and the Human Community
Spring Accelerated Term
April 3 - June 12, 2000

Jane Tam, Instructor
(808) 595-7264 (emergencies only, please)

e-mail: jtam@fptoday.com
web page: <http://host.fptoday.com/jtam>
web board:
<http://acad.chaminade.edu:8080/~13>

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to foster your knowledge of major world religious traditions and to increase your understanding of the role religions play within the human community. It will cover the following religious traditions:

- Oral Religions
- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- Taoism
- Confucianism
- Judaism
- Christianity
- Islam

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the historical development of each world religion.
- Define many of the important terms and concepts used in world religions.
- Compare the similarities and differences in the way in which religious concepts are interpreted by different traditions.
- Discuss unique contributions made by each of the world religions.
- Discuss what religion is and how it functions in human life.

Class Format and Activities: This course is offered online utilizing e-mail and other internet technologies. Consequently, students are required to have access to a computer which is connected to the internet prior to registration. Students are also expected to be familiar with basic internet technology including sending and receiving e-mail and attachments, web board postings, navigating the World Wide Web, performing searches, and downloading files.

All students should be aware that Religion 10390 is a content-based survey course. Since this section is taught during an accelerated session, it proceeds at a fast pace. Because it is taught online it requires

students to have the motivation and self-discipline to work independently in order to satisfactorily complete course requirements.

Required In-Person Meetings: There are two required in-persons meetings: an orientation meeting to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2000, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM, and a final examination to be held on Saturday, June 10, 2000, time to be announced, both on the Chaminade University of Honolulu campus.

Class Website. Students are expected to be familiar with the entire website and to check the site regularly for updates. Materials posted on the website, in addition to this syllabus, include a course schedule, information about the course project, a link to the class web board, links to selected internet resources on religion, and a study guide for the final examination.

Weekly Assignments Weekly assignments will include reading assignments which will be given throughout each week of the term and discussion group questions posted by the instructor in accordance with the course schedule. Five discussion questions will be posted on the discussion board by the instructor throughout the term which will require a response by each student by the date noted on the course schedule.

Course Project: Each student is required to complete a course project. The course project involves conducting field research on a religious tradition, other than one's own, selected by the student.

Discussion Groups. Each student will be assigned to a discussion group for the purpose of participating in the required web board discussions. Discussion group assignments will be posted on the web board after registration for the class has been closed. Students are required to respond to all questions posted by the instructor throughout the term. The discussion questions will be graded on a pass/fail basis. In order to earn a passing grade, students must respond to all questions posted by the instructor, and responses must reflect independent thought and an understanding of the material under discussion.

Mid-Term and Final Examination: One mid-term examination (see course schedule for date) will be administered online, and an in-person comprehensive final examination will be administered at the conclusion of the course. The final exam will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2000, time and room to be announced, on the Chaminade University main campus. All students must take the final exam as scheduled unless they have previously arranged a proctored exam. Any student taking a proctored exam must also complete an "Incomplete Contract" prior to the end of the term to avoid receiving a failing grade. All arrangements for proctored exams and incompletes must be made by contacting the Accelerated Undergraduate Programs office at 735-4755.

Required Text: Molloy, Michael, *Experiencing the World's Religions*, Mayfield Publishing Company, 1999, with accompanying CD-ROM study guide.

Grading: Satisfactory performance entails the successful completion of all of the following:

(1) Satisfactory participation in all web board discussions (pass/fail); (2) completion of the course project; (3) a mid-term examination; and (4) a comprehensive final examination. The weight of each of the various elements comprising the overall course grade is summarized as follows:

Participation in Discussions	20% (pass/fail)
Course Project	20%
Mid-Term Examination	30%
Final Examination	30%
TOTAL	100%

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
50 - 59	F

All grades will reflect the standards set forth in Chaminade's 1998-99 General Catalog. As indicated in the catalog, an "A" signifies outstanding scholarship and unusual intellectual initiative; a "B" signifies superior work; a "C" signifies a competent grasp of the subject matter; a "D" signifies inferior work; and an "F" indicates failure to grasp the minimum subject matter.

Expectations: With the possible exception of documented emergencies, there will be no extensions given on assignment due dates or the final examination.. Students who fail to submit assignments or comply with other requirements are advised to withdraw from the course in order to avoid a final course grade of "F". Grades of "Incomplete" will only be given in cases of documented extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control and in accordance with Chaminade University of Honolulu policies. Attendance in this class is represented by the student's web board postings and submission of other assignments. Students are expected to observe the regulations concerning academic honesty published by Chaminade University of Honolulu (see Chaminade University General Catalog).

Mutual Respect and Consideration: As subjects examined during this course may touch upon topics, beliefs, and/or issues considered sensitive by some students, it is imperative that all students demonstrate courtesy and respect concerning the views, opinions, and beliefs of others.

This page was last updated on 04/03/00.
© Jane Ellen Friedman Tam, 1999.

[Go Back to Home Page](#)