

SE '00
my

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
FALL SESSIONS
APRIL 3 - JUNE 12, 1999
PEARL HARBOR CAMPUS**

COURSE: RE10340: Religions and the Human Community
CLASSROOM: Pearl Harbor - Bldg. 679, Second Floor
TIME: Saturdays, 8:00AM-12:10PM
INSTRUCTOR: Sister Malia Dominica Wong, O.P.
PHONE: 676-1452
E-MAIL: srmaliad@juno.com

TEXTBOOK: Molloy, Michael. 1999, **EXPERIENCING THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS: Tradition, Challenge, and Change.** Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co.

DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to the historical, philosophical and spiritual foundations of the major religious traditions of the world-- Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The course will examine the lives of their founders, their basic teachings, the historical development of their communities and institutions, and their current status in the world. Using an experiential approach, and the classroom as a sacred space for personal spiritual growth, this course also endeavors to create a more universal understanding and appreciation of one's own tradition amidst this great cultural variety, in order to foster a more harmonious global community.

OBJECTIVES:

- *to stimulate students to reflect on their own beliefs, feelings and attitudes towards different religious perspectives, correlating and contrasting them with what they are learning
- *to foster the students' appreciation for the communal and cultural dimensions of religion, as well as the variety of expressions of personality and personal development that occur within religious traditions
- *to understand the basic elements of religion
- *to experience various forms of prayer and religious practices
- *to explore the influences different religions have on various contemporary issues
- *to grow deeper in one's own faith

REQUIREMENTS:

Students are to come to each class prepared by having read the assigned readings, completed any other homework assignments and being ready for in-class activities.

GRADING:

Grading will be based upon regular class attendance, class work, homework, journal writing, projects, quizzes, participation, and effort. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, 10 or 12 point font only. 1-1/2 inch margins. Extra credit-- events and topics to be discussed as the occasion arises.

***CATEGORIES:**

Attendance:	1pt/each class
Class Participation:	2 pts/class
Journal reflections:	2pts/each
Reflection Papers:	5 pts/each
In-class writings:	2 pts/each
Midterm Project:	10 pts.
Final:	15 pts.

POSSIBLE:

10
20
20
15
10
10
<u>15</u>
100

90-100: A 80-89: B 70-79: C 60-69: D 59 and below: ☹

***EXTRA CREDIT:** 2-3 pts. each/10 pts. max.

1 page typed reflection/review paper on:

- Extracurricular, intercultural activity or service attended (3 pts.);
- pertinent films and recreational reading review; newspaper clipping log and commentary; "For Fuller Understanding" at end of chapter (2 pts.); working in study guide-short answer (max. 10)
- Other suggestions? see me

***MAKE-UP FOR MISSED CLASSES (Class Participation points):** 2 pts. each

In the Study Guide, at the end of each section there are "Reflection Exercises." Choose 2 to reflect on (do, if participation required), and then write them up in a reaction-style paper 2 1/2-3 pages.

ASSIGNMENTS:

***Journal reflections:**

Hand-written or typed, aprox. 1 page each week to be submitted at midterm and before the final class (5/4 entries each time). Topic: feedback, reactions over chapter readings, or thoughts that may be stirred and you wish to share your response on.

***Reflection Papers:**

2 1/2-3 page typed papers to be submitted after each field trip. Content: reflections on the field trip, observations, comparisons, feelings, learnings, etc.

***In-class writings:**

Reaction papers written in class.

***Midterm Project:**

Show and Tell: Explore your own cultural and religious background, the traditions, the stories, the symbols, arts, music, foods, etc. associated with it. Create a 10 minute

experiential presentation to share the influences explored, or, your present day practices.

*Final:

Scrapbook: Personal Philosophy of Life. Highlight significant events that have brought you to the point where you are now, and what you feel your contribution to the Circle of Life, niche in the web, is, and how you dream to attain it. Include circles of the interconnectedness between the social, political, environmental, universal realms. (aprox. 10 creative pages)

LEARNING OUTCOME ASSESSMENT:

All student's work will be evaluated for:

- *knowledge of the subject matter from textbooks, class presentations, discussions, videos, research, outside class activities
- *ability to apply the knowledge to understand current issues in society
- *understanding of the subject matter from different viewpoints

SCHEDULE:

- April 8:** Introduction, Oral Religions
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 7 - text p. 235-261
- April 15:** Shinto
Field Trip: Downtown Temple Walking Tour-- Kuan Yin Temple, Lum Sai Ho Tong, Izumo Taishakyo Mission, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Our Lady of Peace Cathedral
Meeting: 8:45AM - Kuan Yin Temple
Address: 170 N. Vineyard St.
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 9 - text p. 319-370
- April 22:** Christianity
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 6 - text p. 187-232
- April 29:** Buddhism
Field Trip: Honolulu Diamond Sangha Zen Center
Meeting: 9:00AM
Address: 2747 Waiomao Road
(Palolo Valley)
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 5 - text p. 163-185
- May 6:** Jainism and Sikhism
Midterm Projects
- May 13:** Taoism and Confucianism
(May 14: Sunday-10:30AM)
Li-Ju and Joong Lin Kin, two of the 8 Immortals
Taoist combined service
Palolo
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 3 - text p. 55-98

- May 20:** Hinduism
Field Trip: ISKCON Temple
Meeting: 9:00AM
Address: 51 Coelho Way
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 4 - text p. 101-160
- May 27:** Islam
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 10 - text p. 263-316
- June 3:** Judaism
Final Project Due/Presentations
Hmwk. Readings: Chapt. 11 - text p. 401-453
- June 10:** Religion and the Future: Modern Challenges, Contemporary Directions

Note: Syllabus is subject to change.