Religion 10350 Religions and the Human Community Chaminade University of Honolulu SYLLABUS

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Evening Session Winter 2000 Barbers Point

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

RELIGION 103: Religions and the Human Community (3 Credits) Introduces the student to the historical, philosophical, and spiritual foundations of the major religious traditions in the world. The course examines these foundations of the world's religions, the lives of their founders, their basic teachings, the historical development of their communities and institutions, and their current status in the world.

REQUIRED TEXT

Molloy, Michael. Experiencing the Worlds Religions Mayfield Publishing Co., 1999.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

We want to understand religious experience, practice, and institutions. The primary objective of the course is to expand the student's awareness of the world's religions and their impact upon the human community. At the end of the course the student will have a basic knowledge of the origins, historical development, rituals, myths, doctrines, ethical precepts, and experiences of the major world religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, as well as the religions of China and Japan, and the tribal religions of peoples of Africa, the Americas, and Hawaii.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

Attendence! Missing more than one class will be very bad for your grade. Reading! Keep up on reading assignments, and read them *before* class. Class participation, 20%. Exams. Three non-cumulative exams, 20% each (That's 60% total)

A final paper, project, or presentation, on a topic cleared with the instructor, 20%

SCHEDULE (tentative) Readings to be assigned, but should be obvious. We are short one class meeting, so we need to schedule one: Wednesdays or Fridays good for me. Week One January 10 Introduction to World Religions Week Two January 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day : No class! Week Three January 24 Hinduism Week Four January 31 Buddhism Week Five February 7 Chinese Religion (First exam) Week Six February 14 Japanese Religion Week Seven February 21 President's Day: No Class! Week Eight February 28 Judaism (Second exam) Week Nine March 6 Chrisitianity Week Ten March 13 Islam (Third Exam) Week Eleven March 20 Last Class: The Future. (Final Project Due)