

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU**  
**Fall Evening Term**  
**October 1 – December 8, 2001**  
Online

**COURSE: Religion 10390, World Religions**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Buddy Summers, 808-780-1583

**Email address:** [budsummers@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:budsummers@hawaii.rr.com)

*Any procedural questions should be emailed directly to instructor.*

**WEB BOARD URL:** <http://acad.chaminade.edu:8080/~re103>

*Class members are expected to log-on October 1, download syllabus, and begin.*

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

**EXPERIENCING THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS:**

Tradition, Challenge and Change

Michael Molloy, 1999

Mountain View, CA Mayfield Publishing Company

Or, Second Edition above, 2002

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED STUDY AIDS:**

Study Guide and CD for Malloy available through Chaminade Book Store.

**OBJECTIVES:** At the conclusion of this course, excellent students will have shown the ability to

1. Identify geographic, historical and/or mythological origins; important historical developments; fundamental writings; key leaders; principal beliefs and practices; and present day challenges for the following religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto, Islam, Christian, Islam.
2. Use Journal style reflection to illuminate a personal religious journey, intuitions and ethical values in relation to each of the religions studied.
3. Give a multidisciplinary description of a previously unfamiliar local religious community based on research including onsite visits and interviews.

**PLEASE NOTICE**

Guided by Catholic, Marianist and liberal arts education traditions, Chaminade University seeks to prepare students for life, work and service. Accordingly, the Instructor invites respect for educational excellence, community building, moral character, personal competencies, and a commitment to build a just and peaceful society.

Students are expected to spend twelve hours per week on this course. This is a content-based survey course proceeding at an accelerated pace. Independent as well as interdependent work, motivation and self-discipline are essential. Internet access and familiarity required.

Care in use of the English language reflects well upon both student and teacher. Excellence will be noted. Sloppy work will be graded accordingly.

Academic honesty in accordance with Chaminade policies is expected. Failure to comply with the policy will result in course failure.

As we are dealing with potentially sensitive material, courtesy and respect in responding to one another is essential.

### **HOMEWORK:**

- Read Text assignment by Wednesday each week.
- Participate weekly in Instructor's Forum:
- Journal: Follow Guidelines and email to Instructor each week.
- Project: Follow Guidelines and Post Three (3) Project Progress Reports. Email completed project to Instructor NLT Noon, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **INSTRUCTOR'S FORUM:**

- IF questions will be available 7 AM each Monday morning.
- Respond to each IF question not later than 7 PM Wednesday night each week.
- Make at least two further postings weekly in response either to Instructor's follow-up questions or each other's posts or responses..
- The Instructor will check web board, enter web board discussions, and answer direct emails on Thursday mornings.
- Noon each Sunday, the IF will close and be removed from the web board.

### **COURSE JOURNAL:**

The Course Journal satisfies objective 2 above. Write a minimum four hundred word weekly personal reflection in response to the course reflecting your own attempt to integrate new material into your own path and understanding. Relate your Journal to the course objectives 1 and 2. Start early in the week. Take your time. Think.

Email your weekly 400+ word Journal entry directly to the Instructor NLT Noon each week. In most instances the Instructor will reply with questions or observations for further reflection in subsequent weeks.

### **COURSE PROJECT**

The Course Project satisfies objective 3 above and involves a series of tasks:

- select a local religious community different from one's own,
- collect general information about this religious community from internet and other resources,

**Include above information in 1<sup>st</sup> Progress Report**

- prepare a set of interdisciplinary question for an onsite visit and interviews,
- schedule appointments for onsite visit(s) to a liturgical gathering (i.e. a "worship service") **and** for interviews with at least three persons of the community,

**Include above information in 2<sup>nd</sup> Progress Report**

- conduct onsite visit and interviews,
- organize information, draw conclusions and pose new questions

**Include above information in 3<sup>rd</sup> Progress Report**

**The completed Course Project must be emailed to the Instructor NLT Noon, December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

### **MID-TERM AND FINAL TESTS**

The MID-TERM will be *writing intensive*. It will be posted on the web board Monday, November 12th, 7:00 AM. It is a major part of the course requirement. You are expected to take 9-12 hours completing this exam.

The completed MIDTERM must be emailed to the instructor not later than Noon, November 17th. One way to prepare for this exam is to write up each chapter using course objective 1 as an outline.

The FINAL EXAM will be administered to students with a current ID on the Chaminade University campus Saturday, 1:00 PM and at 3:00 PM, December 8, 2001, room to be announced.

This test will be closed book. It will be a comprehensive multiple choice test covering the entire course. One way to prepare is to write up each chapter using course objective 1 as an outline. Another way to prepare might be to make an extensive vocabulary list for each chapter.

**Off island students** must make arrangements through the Chaminade Evening Program Office (Donna Yoshimura, (808) 735-4755 ) to have the FINAL EXAM proctored and returned to Chaminade.

### **GRADING BASIS**

Grades will reflect Chaminade standards: "A" significant scholarship and unusual intellectual initiative, "B" superior work, "C" competent grasp of subject matter, "D" inferior work, "F" failure to grasp the minimum of subject matter.

Completion of the course requires **all** of the following:

- Participation in the Instructor's Forum
- MID TERM and FINAL EXAM
- Submission of Weekly 400+ WORD Course Journal
- Course Project including three progress reports

Work will count toward the final grade as follows:

INSTRUCTOR'S FORUM	20%
COURSE JOURNAL	20%
COURSE PROJECT	20%
MID-TERM	20%
FINAL	20%

Course grades will be computed as follows:

> 90 A, 89 – 80 B, 79 – 70 C, 69 – 60 D, 59 > F

“Incomplete” will be given only in cases of documented extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's control and consistent with Chaminade policy. See catalogue.

There will be no make up or extra credit work given. Late work not accepted.

#### SCHEDULE:

Week Beginning      Theme      Homework

Oct 1	<b>Understanding Religion</b>	
	<b>Oral Religions</b>	Read Text Chapter 1, 2, and 11 ('99 text) or 12 ('02 text)
	<b>Contemporary Issues</b>	Post Self-Introduction (SI), Read all SIs, Greet everyone
Oct 8	<b>Hinduism</b>	T3, IF, Journal (J)
Oct 15	<b>Buddhism</b>	T4, IF, J and 1 <sup>st</sup> Project Progress Report (PPR)
Oct 22	<b>Jainism and Sikhism</b>	T5, IF, J
Oct 29	<b>Taoism, Confucianism</b>	T6, IF, J and 2 <sup>nd</sup> PPR
Nov 5	<b>Shinto</b>	T7, IF, J
Nov 12	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>email to Instructor NLT Noon, Saturday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup></b>
Nov 19	<b>Judaism</b>	T8, IF, J and 3 <sup>rd</sup> PPR
Nov 26	<b>Christianity</b>	T9, SG9, IF, J
Dec 3	<b>Islam</b>	T10, SG10, IF, J
Dec 8	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>email Course Project by Noon, Dec 8<sup>th</sup></b>