

SE '03

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
SPRING SESSION
APRIL 9 - JUNE 13, 2003
FORT SHAFTER CAMPUS

COURSE: RE103: World Religions
TIME: Fridays, 5:30-9:40 p.m.
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Malia Dominica Wong, O.P.
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TEXTBOOK: Molloy, Michael. 2002, **EXPERIENCING THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS: Tradition, Challenge, and Change, 11nd edition,** 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, 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. Note: communication with the teacher is essential if you have any concerns, are called away on duty, etc.

CATEGORIES:*WEIGHTING:**

Attendance:	10%
Class Participation:	20%
Reflection Papers:	15%
Homework:	10%
Quizzes:	10%
Midterm Project:	15%
Final:	<u>20%</u>
	100

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

***EXTRA CREDIT:**

- 1 page typed reflection/review paper on:
 - Extracurricular, intercultural activity or service attended; pertinent films and recreational reading review; current events and personal commentary...
 - Other suggestions? See me.

***MAKE-UP FOR MISSED CLASSES (Class Participation points):**

In the Textbook, at the end of each chapter there is a section called "For Fuller Understanding." Choose 2 to do. Write up your response in a reaction-style paper 1-1 ½ pages.

ASSIGNMENTS:***Homework:**

Each week you are requested to submit over the readings, three points of interest that stirred your thoughts or curiosity, or three questions. Note: even though subject-content field trips may change and not match up with the readings on certain occasions, continue with the readings as scheduled.

***Reflection Papers:**

1 ½-2 page typed papers to be submitted after each field trip. Content: reflections and reactions over the field trip-- observations, comparisons, feelings, learnings, etc.

***Quizzes:**

Short review quizzes or reaction papers written in class.

***Midterm Project:**

Show and Tell: What has contributed to whom you have become, who you are? Explore your own cultural, religious, or familial background, the traditions, stories, symbols, arts, music, foods, etc. associated with it. Create a 7 minute experiential presentation to share the influences explored, or, your present day practices.

***Final:**

Oral Presentation. Reflecting over the different religions studied, create a single art piece (collage, 3-D, drawing, writing, music composition, etc.) that expresses symbols of, your insights into, or what you gleaned from each. At one point in your creation, highlight your

personal synthesis of what you have gained out of the study of the different world traditions. This may be in light of your own religious path, or philosophy of life.

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:

Apr. 11: Class: Intro./ Understanding Religion/Oral Religions
Homework: Read Chap. 9: Christianity, p. 321-402
3 points of interest

Apr. 18: Class: Christianity
Field Trip: Good Friday Celebration
Base Chapel
Homework: Read Chapt. 10: Islam, p. 405-455
Reaction Paper #1
3 points of interest

Apr. 25: Class: Judaism and Islam
Homework: Read Chapt. 3: Hinduism, p. 59-102
3 points of interest

May 2: Class: Hinduism
Field Trip: *Hare Krishna Temple
51 Coelho Way
#595-4913
Homework: Midterm Projects
Reaction Paper #2

May 9: Class: Midterm Projects
Homework: Read Chapt. 4: Buddhism, p. 105-164
3 points of interest

May 16: Class: Buddhism
Field Trip: *Kwannon Temple
Palolo
Homework: Read Chapt. 7: Shintoism, p. 237-263
Reaction paper #3
3 points of interest

May 23: Class: Buddhism, cont., and Shintoism
Homework: Read Chapt. 6: Taoism and Confucianism, p. 191-235
3 points of interest

May 30: Class: Taoism and Confucianism
Homework: Final projects

June 6: Class: Final Projects
Homework: Read Chapt. 11: Alternative Paths, p. 457-488

June 13: Class: Alternative Paths

***Note: Syllabus is subject to change.**