

HUM/PHIL 2133-001: Comparative Religions

Oklahoma City Community College
Spring 2009 Semester

Instructor Information:

Professor: Jon Inglett

Office: 2E4-AH

Office Hours: M (online: 10-12 pm); T (2:00-5:00; 8-9 pm); Th (2:00-5:00; 8-9 pm); F (by appt)

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Textbook:

Sacred Words: A Source Book on the Great Religions of the World. By Terry D. Bilhartz. McGraw Hill, 2007. ISBN# 0072900989

Course Description:

This course is a study of the major world religions both ancient and modern. The student will examine and compare historical developments, major historical figures, philosophical tenets and /or belief systems, and sacred texts from various religions. Also, students will evaluate the impact of these elements within a contemporary, global framework. This course satisfies three credit hours of the General Education Humanities requirements for all Associate in Arts, Science, and Diversified Studies degrees.

Course Competencies:

By the end of the semester, students should be able to accomplish the following tasks:

1. Describe the historical developments of Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Indigenous Traditions, Islam, Judaism, and Taoism.
2. Describe the contribution and significance of major historical figures for each world religion.
3. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the major philosophical tenets and/or beliefs systems for each major world religion.
4. Compare the philosophical tenets and/or belief systems of the major historical figures and schools of thought with other religions and cultures.
5. Evaluate and integrate primary texts (sacred texts and/or canonical writings) into writing assignments by properly quoting or paraphrasing from the primary texts and by following the MLA format learned in ENGL 1113 and/or ENGL 1213.
6. Apply religious concepts to issues raised in contemporary culture.

Assignments and Grading Criteria:

Reflection Journals 300

Quizzes 300

Comparative Analysis Paper 200

Final Exam 100

Participation Points 100

Scale: | A = 100 – 90 % | B = 89 - 80% | C = 79 - 70% | D = 69 - 60% | F = below 59% |

Note: The amount of points may vary according to the class structure.

Assessment of Student Learning:

Oklahoma City Community College is committed to providing quality educational experiences to all students and to striving for continuous improvement in its programs and services. Student assessment is vital to the educational process and can be of significant value to you and to the students who follow you.

To ensure that adequate assessment information is available to allow OCCC to continuously improve programs and services, you may be asked to participate in personal interviews, to take program and/or general education assessments which could be tests, oral presentations, writing assignments, or other activities; or to complete surveys during designated times, which may include class periods. These opportunities are your chance to help OCCC improve the courses, programs, and services which could affect you and will certainly impact students in the future.

Global Education:

Because we live in a global society and what we do in the United States affects the world, and what is done in other parts of the world impacts us, students will connect the selected readings or chapters or assignments in this course to real-life, global concerns. They will respond to issues from a variety of cultures and they will recognize the conflicts/issues are related to the issues in their own lives.

Accommodation Statement:

Oklahoma City Community College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek academic accommodations must make their request by: Contacting the Office of Student Support Services located on the first floor of the main building near entry 12, or call 682-7520.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

Plagiarism consists of submitting work that is not entirely your own, copying/pasting from a website or other document without properly citing and quoting from the work, or submitting work that you have written in another course. Any form of cheating or academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the entire course and a written report to be filed in the office of the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Late Work:

All work should be turned in on time unless unusual circumstances exist and can be confirmed. If work should be turned in late for any reason, 20% may be subtracted from the assignment. After one week, assignments will not be accepted. No work may be submitted after the last day of class.

Official Withdrawal:

A student may officially withdraw from a credit class through the twelfth week of a 16-week course, or the sixth week of an 8-week course. A refund of full or partial fees will be due only in accordance with the College refund policy. The letter grade "W" will be shown on the official transcript for any student-initiated withdrawal after the schedule adjustment period.

Participation and Attendance:

Since this course requires interactive discussions to promote learning opportunities and growth, all students are expected to participate fully within this course. If you miss assignments or class periods due to traveling, computer problems, an illness, or any unexpected event, it is your responsibility to turn in your work early or notify me through e-mail, voice mail, phone, or in person about your issue. If

you miss more than 2 class periods, your grade may automatically be lowered by 10%. If you miss more than 4 class periods, you may be failed from the course. Walking into class late is considered missing part of a class period.

Etiquette:

- Be courteous and show respect to others in their opinions and ideas.
- Sexual harassment or any form of discrimination will not be accepted in my class.
- Academically appropriate language is required at all times.
- Mutual respect is required when discussing ALL religions.
- Use of electronic devices is acceptable in some instances, as long as they do not interfere with student learning. For example, a laptop is acceptable to locate information related to an assignment but is not acceptable for chatting or browsing websites irrelevant to class activities.
- Please place your cellular phones on “Silent” or “Meeting” so that we can have a classroom without interruptions. If a phone call or text message can be defined as an emergency (i.e. an ill parent or child), please text message quietly or step out of the classroom to complete the conversation.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Introduction to Course
Assign Reflection Journal 1: Quotations

Week 2

Reflection Journal 1 Due
Hinduism Part 1
Assign Reflection Journal 2: Hinduism

Week 3

Hinduism Part 2
Reflection Journal 2: Hinduism Due

Week 4

Quiz: Hinduism
Buddhism Part 1
Assign Reflection Journal 4: Buddhism

Week 5

Buddhism Part 2
Reflection Journal 4 Buddhism Due

Week 6

Quiz: Buddhism
Chinese Religions Part 1
Assign Reflection Journal 5 Chinese Religions

Week 7

Chinese Religions Part 2
Reflection Journal 5 Chinese Religions Due

Week 8

Quiz: Chinese Religions
Judaism Part One
Assign Reflection Journal 6 Judaism

Week 9

Judaism Part Two
Reflection Journal 6 Judaism Due
Assign Comparative Analysis Essay

Week 10

Quiz: Judaism
Christianity Part One
Assign Reflection Journal 7 Christianity

Week 11

Christianity Part Two
Reflection Journal 7 Christianity Due

Week 12

Quiz: Christianity
Islam Part One
Assign Reflection Journal 8 Islam

Week 13

Islam Part Two
Reflection Journal 8 Islam Due

Week 14

Quiz: Islam
Native American and Traditional African Religions

Week 15

Oceanic Religions
Comparative Analysis Essay Due

Week 16

Final Exam Due