COLLEGE OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
COURSE OUTLINE COVER SHEET

CIP No. 24.01013
REL 198
Alpha Number

Religions of the World
Course Title

Course Description
A comparative study of contemporary Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism, with brief examinations of other religions or religious movements. The role of religion in human culture will be emphasized.

Course prepared by:

Education Department

January / 1999

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Purpose of Course:

Degree Requirement
Degree Elective X
Certification
Developmental
Other

Prerequisite(s)
ENG 96 & ENG 98 or
Placement in Credit

Signature, Curriculum & Assessment Committee Chairperson

Date

Signature, Dean of Academic Affairs

Date

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Date

Last Date reviewed or revised: December 2008
I. Religions of the World

Course Title

II. Course Objectives

A. General Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:
1. Examine and note the role of religion in human cultures (GE 1, 3) (LA 1, 2, 3)
2. Utilize worldview elements as a basis for comparison between religions (GE 1, 2, 3) (LA 1, 2, 3)
3. Integrate knowledge of historical development of particular religions into a contemporary context (GE 1, 3) (LA 1, 2)
4. Summarize the similarities and differences between Eastern and Western religions (GE 1, 3), (LA 1, 2, 3)
5. Cultivate an appreciation for various religious viewpoints (GE 1, 3) (LA 1, 2, 3)

B. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Determine the role of religion in human cultures
   a. Describe the common purposes of various world religions and their relationship to human needs
   b. Identify and reflect on the place of religions on the world stage of events
   c. Explore and develop a personal system of belief and recognize its importance to the individual
2. Utilize worldview elements in religions
   a. Examine and interpret the major scriptures of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
   b. Discuss and describe the contemporary practice, sects and denominations, and adherents of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
   c. Develop a synopsis of the beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
   d. Examine, discuss and formulate an opinion on the solutions for humans offered by Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
   e. Examine and describe the practices and paths of attainment in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
3. Trace the origins of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
4. Construct chart organizing the major beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
5. Identify the connections and similarities between major religions and the arts and sciences

III. Course Content

Students will compare and contrast central Worldview elements and historical development of the world's major religions; Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

1. Common purposes of religion and its relationship to human needs
2. Evidence of tribal religions in North and South Americas, Africa and Asia
3. Historical and worldview elements of Hinduism
4. Historical and worldview elements of Buddhism
5. Historical and worldview elements of Judaism
6. Historical and worldview elements of Christianity
7. Historical and worldview elements of Islam
8. Comparison and contrast of world religions
IV. Methods of Instruction

1. Lecture
2. Whole group and small group discussions
3. Multimedia presentations
4. Audio-visual aids
5. Writing projects
6. Group projects and presentations

V. Equipment and Materials

1. Audio-visual equipment
2. World maps
3. LCD projector and laptop computers

VI. Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1. Tests
2. Writing projects
3. Group and individual oral presentations
4. Research projects

Letter grades will be assigned per CMI Grading System.