

College of the Humanities
Religion Program: RELI 1711 A
Asian Religions

Professor: Richard Mann
Office: Paterson Hall 2A51
Office Hours: Tuesdays 12-1, Wednesdays 11:30-12:30, or by appointment
Office Phone: 520-2600 ext. 2504
Office e-mail: richard_mann@carleton.ca
TA: William (Scott) McCleery
Classroom: Tory Building 340
Class time: 1:05-2:25 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the basic beliefs, rituals and historical development of some Asian religious traditions. We will begin in India with Hinduism and Buddhism. We then move to China to study Confucianism and Taoism as well as certain aspects of Buddhism in China. We close the course with a brief examination of Buddhism in Japan.

Required Texts:

Oxtoby, Willard and Roy Amore. *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*, 3rd edition. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press, 2010. **If you are purchasing a used edition make sure you have the 3rd edition of the text. You may find that purchasing the text on-line is cheaper than purchasing it through the CU Bookstore.**

Course Package only available at The Carleton University Bookstore.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1. Test on Hinduism (20%) written in class on **Oct. 04**
2. Test on Indian Buddhism (20%) written in class on **Oct. 25**
3. Test on Confucianism and Taoism (20%) written in class on **Nov. 17**
4. Final Examination (40%) TBA – the final exam will be written in the formal final examination period.

General Notes on Evaluation:

1. Please see “Regulations Common to all Humanities Courses” attached to the syllabus for policy on plagiarism, grading systems, requests for academic accommodation and petitions to defer.
2. Missed tests and assignments can only be made up if the student supplies adequate written documentation (i.e., a doctor’s note, an obituary) for the absence.
3. The tests will be based on lecture material and the assigned readings. The format of the tests will include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, short answer questions and essay questions. While attendance will not be taken in the course, student attendance at lectures and student success on tests and exams are closely linked. You are far more likely to pass this course if you attend all the lectures and do all of the assigned readings.

Class Reading and Lecture Schedule:

Sept. 8 Lecture 1: syllabus review, course policies, conceptualizing religion overview

Sept. 13 Lecture 2: Hinduism – Vedic India

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 30-42
2. Course pack *Rigveda* 10.129
3. Course pack *Rigveda* 10.90

Sept. 15 Lecture 3: Hinduism – The Upanishads

Read : 1. Course pack – selections from the *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad* (BU) and *Chandogya Upanishad* (CU)

Sept. 20 Lecture 4: Hinduism – The Upanishads (continued)

Read: 1. re-read selections from the BU and CU

Sept. 22 Lecture 5: Hinduism – Classical Hinduism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 43-61
2. Course pack – selections from *The Bhagavad Gita*

Sept. 27 Lecture 6: Hinduism – Bhakti (devotional) Hinduism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 61-69
2. Course pack – selections from the *Bhagavata Purana*

Sept. 29 Lecture 7: Hinduism – Rituals and Modern Hinduism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 69-99

Oct. 4 **First in-class test: Hinduism** I will begin the lectures on Buddhism after the test.

Oct. 6 Lecture 8: Buddhism – The life of the Buddha

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 180-190

Oct. 11 Lecture 9: Buddhism – Basic Teachings

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 190-205
2. Course pack – “Setting in Motion the Wheel of Truth”
3. Course pack – “The Three Jewels”

Oct. 13 Lecture 10: Buddhism – Basic Teachings

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 224-226
2. Course pack – Selections from the *Dhammapada*

Oct. 18 Lecture 11: Buddhism – Mahayana Buddhism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 205-211, 227-229
2. Course pack – “Wisdom and Compassion”
3. Course pack – “The Heart Sutra”

Oct. 20 Lecture 12: Buddhism – Mahayana Buddhism and Buddhist Ritual

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 231-235, 238-242,

Oct. 25 **Second in-class test – Indian Buddhism** I will begin the lectures on China after the test.

Oct. 27 Lecture 13: Early Chinese traditions

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 256-266

Nov. 1 Lecture 14: Confucianism – Kongfuzi (Confucius)

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 266-281

2. Course pack – selections from *The Analects of Confucius*

Nov. 3 Lecture 15: Confucianism continued -- Mengzi (Mencius) and Xunzi (Hsun-tzu)

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 281-294

2. Course pack – selections from *Mencius*

3. Course pack – selections from Hsun Tzu (Xunzi)

Nov. 8 Lecture 16: Taoism (Daoism) – *Tao Te Ching (Dao De Jing)*

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 294-304

2. Course pack – selections from the *Tao Te Ching*

Nov. 10 Lecture 17: Taoism continued -- Chuang Tzu (Zhuangzi)

Read: 1. Course pack – selections from *Chuang Tzu (Zhuangzi)*

Nov. 15 Lecture 18: Taoism continued – Religious Taoism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 304-313

Nov. 17 **Third in-class test – Confucianism and Taoism** I will begin the lectures in Buddhism in China after the test.

Nov. 22 Lecture 19: Buddhism in China Tiantai, Huayan and Ch'an

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 211-217

2. Course pack – selections from Hui-neng, *The Platform Scripture*

Nov. 24 Lecture 20: Pure Land Buddhism in China

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 236-237, 242-244

2. Course pack – “Reciting the Name of the Buddha”

Nov. 29 Lecture 21: Early Japanese Traditions and Shinto

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 330-342, 349-354

Dec. 1 Lecture 22: Japanese Buddhism

Read: 1. Oxtoby and Amore, *World Religions/Eastern Traditions*, pages 342-349, 217-220

2. Course pack “The Gift of Faith”

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 5, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 5, 2012**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov.11, 2011 for the Fall term and March 7, 2012 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please contact the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library