World Culture and Religion
Spring 2021
Professor Dylan Stagg

Office Location: International College (국제대), room 302
Office Hours: Tuesday, 11:30-3:20, Wednesday 12:30-3:20
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Class Location: Lecture Building (종합), room 505
Class Time: Wednesday, 9:30-12:20

I. Course introduction
This course gives a basic introduction to religious and spiritual traditions from around the world. Topics such as comparing traditions, asking why there are religions, and how they fit in modern society will be discussed. Some of the religious traditions that will be covered are: Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, and New Religious Movements. Class will be both lecture and discussion based. Students will share what they've learned in groups, and be guided by the professor.

II. Competencies / Course objectives
After completing the course, students will:
- be able to understand the history, beliefs and practices of world religions
- be able to recognize the influence of religion in current world affairs
- have developed their English-language conversation and writing skills
- have developed critical thinking skills

III. Course requirements and expectations
All students must:
- come to class ready to discuss and engage the material.
- act respectfully and courteously in class at all times.
- attend and be on time for all classes.
- complete all assignments and exams.
- have a good level of English to understand what is being discussed in class.

IV. Grading

- Class Participation   40%
- Mid-Term Quiz   10%
- Paper Proposal   5%
- Final Paper   25%
- Final Test   20%

V. Online Attendance

The class will use the program <u>Zoom</u>. To qualify as present in class, a student must:

- login to Zoom
- have the camera on (and show their face)
- have the audio on
- be engaged (listen and respond)

To complete a course, students must attend at least 75% of classes. That is, if students miss a class **four times**, they will fail the course. There are NO excused absences.

- <u>Lateness:</u>
  - 3 times late = 1 absence.
  - If a student arrives after the first **15 minutes** of class they are considered late.

VI. Class Participation

In class, students are expected to talk, share their ideas, and ask questions. Each time a student speaks, <u>one point</u> will be given. At the end of the semester, the student with the highest number of points will receive a 100% for participation. The rest of the class will be graded accordingly. In addition, students will have discussion questions to do in groups almost every class. If a student submits at least a one sentence answer to these questions after class (at any time), <u>two points</u> will be given.

VII. Examinations

There will be two online exams, one mid-term and one final. The first will be a short quiz of only 4 fill-in-the-blank, 4 multiple choice, and 2 short-answer questions. The final will be double in size: 20 questions in total (8 fill-in-the-blank, 8 multiple choice, and 4 short answer) with the same format.

VIII. Paper

The paper will consist of two components. First, a proposal, which, in one paragraph, will explain what the topic is about. Secondly, a one-page paper, in English, based on the proposal previously submitted will be written. Students will write one page on comparing two religious traditions. More information about this will be given later in the semester.
- Note: <u>Only</u> Microsoft Word documents will be accepted. No "hwp" files.

IX. Canvas

Each week information will be uploaded onto Canvas. The material posted will be:

- PPTs and discussion questions from class
- Mid-Term and Final exams

Spring 2021 Schedule

Date	Lesson content
Week 1:	Introduction to the course
Week 2:	Why are there religions?
Week 3:	How to study religions?
Week 4:	Hinduism
Week 5:	Buddhism
Week 6:	Daoism & Confucianism
Week 7:	Review
Week 8:	**Midterm assessment**
Week 9:	Judaism
Week 10:	Christianity
Week 11:	Islam
Week 12:	Sikhism
Week 13:	New Religious Movements
Week 14:	Review
Week 15:	**Final assessment**