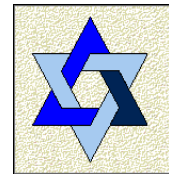




The Long Search—Introduction to World Religions
PHL120.910
Summer 2008



Instructor: Keith Bickley

Office: Von Ohlen, room 118

Office Hours: **By appointment**

Contacts: Office phone: 630-466-7900 ext. 2946

Email: Please email the instructor within WebCT

(Directions to access WebCT can be found online at

http://www.waubonsee.edu/prostudents/distance_learning/telecourses.php)

Timeline: You must complete all course work on or before **August 8, 2008.**

Course Description

A comparative study of living religions of the world, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and select others.

Course Objectives

- To encourage the student to understand and appreciate the rich heritage other religions offer, thereby broadening the student's world-view.
- To compare and contrast major aspects of the world's diverse religions.
- To evaluate and assess different approaches to life's deeper questions.
- To introduce basic information and terminology required to understand the philosophical framework at the basis of every religion.

Texts and Videos

- 1.) **The Long Search** video series (13 videos, free rental of complete DVD sets available from the Distance Learning office, room 145 in Collins Hall, the Sugar Grove campus).
- 2.) **Required Text:** *Student's Guide To The Long Search: A Study of Religions*
1978 by Miami-Dade Community College
Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company

Recommended Text: *The World's Religions*

1991 by Huston Smith (revised & updated edition of **The Religions of Man**)
HarperSanFrancisco

- The required study text directly correlates with the videos, which are very informative. Still, I recommend Huston Smith's book for anyone who wishes to gain deeper insight into the religions discussed throughout the course.

Grading Policy

The course consists of 4 exams worth 25 points each. The exams will ask true-false and multiple-choice questions pertaining to the assigned readings and videos (see assignment schedule). There is a maximum of 100 points for the course (each exam worth 25% of total grade).

A = 90 – 100 points

B = 80 – 89 points

C = 70 – 79 points

D = 60 – 69 points

F = 0 – 59 points

Exams will be available on **May 27** and are taken in the Sugar Grove campus Center for Learning Assessment (1st floor—room 137) or the Aurora Campus Center for Learning Assessment (room 110).

- Please note: There is no extra credit available. However, at the written request of the student (via email or mail) I may allow an extension of ONE semester IF THE STUDENT HAS FINISHED TWO OF THE EXAMS. The extension is not available for a student who has completed and failed the course, but may be available for a student who was not able to complete the course by the end of the semester due to late registration.

Assignment Schedule

Unit One

1. Read *Student's Guide* Introduction and Chapter One (pages vii – 31)
 2. View “Way of the Ancestors” video
 3. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Two
 4. View “Zulu Zion” video
- Take Unit One Exam

Unit Two

1. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Three
 2. View “Hinduism: 330 Million Gods” video
 3. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Four
 4. View “Footprint of the Buddha” video
 5. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Five
 6. View “Taoism: A Question of Balance” video
 7. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Six
 8. View “The Land of the Disappearing Buddha” video
- Take Unit Two Exam

Unit Three

1. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Seven & Chapter Eight
 2. View “Judaism: The Chosen People” video
 3. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Nine (only pages 167-182)
 4. View “Rome, Leeds and the Desert” video
 5. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Nine (only pages 183-191)
 6. View “Orthodox Christianity” video
 7. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Nine (pages 192-201)
 8. View “Protestant Spirit—USA” video
- Take Unit Three Exam

Unit Four

1. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Ten
 2. View “Islam—There is No God But God” video
 3. Read *Student's Guide* Chapter Eleven
 4. View “California—West Meets East” video
 5. Read *Student's Guide* Section: Loose Ends (pages 241-246)
 6. View “Reflections on the Long Search” video
- Take Unit Four Exam