

**SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ARTS AND SCIENCES DIVISION**

**Humanities**

**Revision Date: 07-01-21**

[Syllabus Statements](#)

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Course Number: PHIL2610/RELS2610

Course Title: Comparative Religions

Prerequisite(s): Eligible for ENGL1010

Catalog Description: This course will offer a cross-cultural introduction to the world's major religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems through a comparison of historical origins, rituals, beliefs, practices, worldviews, original religious texts, and other important sources. Interdisciplinary approach to study of religion and various approaches to the study of religious systems.

Credit Hours: 3.0

Class Hours: 45

Lab Hours: 0

Total Contact Hours: 45

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:** *Course will:*

- A. Explore the world's diverse religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- B. Survey sacred texts and sources relevant to a variety of religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- C. Examine works of recognized authorities relevant to a variety of religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- D. Critically analyze questions raised by readings and discussion.
- E. Utilize appropriate terminology to discuss and cite source material to support critical opinions about assigned work.
- F. Differentiate religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems as they apply to diverse backgrounds and cultures.

**III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES**

A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*

- 1. Distinguish the major religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems of the world and the basic tenets of each.
- 2. Examine each tradition or faith system's origins, texts/sources, different worldviews, and cultural expressions.
- 3. Discuss religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems in a mature manner.
- 4. Analyze course materials that involve exposure to original texts or cultural influences of differing religions.
- 5. Develop oral and written analyses which demonstrate critical thinking, reading, and writing.
- 6. Use appropriate research and writing conventions.

B. General Education Learning Outcomes

1. GELO #2: Written Communication

Outcome: Comprehend, analyze, and evaluate a given text.

Outcome: Read and write in mechanically-sound, college-level English.

2. GELO #4: Global Awareness and Citizenship

Outcome: Identify and evaluate different theoretical or philosophical perspectives and their relevance to ethical decision-making.

**IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)**

- A. Study and methods of religion/faith systems as an academic discipline.
- B. Indigenous religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- C. Vedic religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- D. East Asian religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- E. Abrahamic religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.
- F. Contemporary religious/philosophical traditions or faith systems.

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. Required Text(s):
  - 1. Brodd, Jeffrey; L. Little, B. Nystrom, R. Platzner, R. Shek, E. Stiles. *Invitation to World Religions*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed., Oxford University Press, 2019. ISBN: 9780190690816.
- B. Other Resources:
  - 1. Supplemental hand-outs, audio/video materials and other resources supplied by the instructor. Original texts relevant for religions of the world and other works as assigned by the instructor.
  - 2. Outside reading/research as determined by the instructor.

**VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION**

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:
  - 1. Lectures
  - 2. Discussion groups
  - 3. Collaborative projects
  - 4. Research
  - 5. Peer response
  - 6. Assigned writing
  - 7. Conferences
  - 8. Computer-assisted instruction
  - 9. Interactive/creative methods, multimedia
  - 10. Field trips

**VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:  
As determined by the instructor, course grades will be based on class and group participation, daily work, exams, presentations, projects, papers and/or a portfolio. The instructor will distribute and discuss evaluation and grading policies with students at the beginning of each term.

**B. SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY:**

|    |        |    |       |   |            |
|----|--------|----|-------|---|------------|
| A+ | 95-100 | C+ | 75-79 | F | 59 or less |
| A  | 90-94  | C  | 70-74 |   |            |
| B+ | 85-89  | D+ | 65-69 |   |            |
| B  | 80-84  | D  | 60-64 |   |            |

**VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. In order to receive a passing grade, students must complete and earn a passing grade on sufficient work assigned by their instructors.
- B. Instructors will distribute and discuss their specific course policies and requirements with their students at the beginning and during the term.