PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS  
SURVEY OF WORLD RELIGIONS  
PHIL 2010

Class Hours: 3.0  
Credit Hours: 3.0  
Lab Hours: 0.0  
Revised: Spring 2011

Catalog Course Description:
A comparative introduction to the origins, developments, teachings and practices of the major world religions, such as Taoism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Entry Level Standards:
Students in must be able to read and write at a college level. Students must also be responsible enough to prepare for and attend class regularly

Prerequisites:
None

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Judaism</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Judaism</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Taoism</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Confucianism</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Christianity</td>
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II. Course Goals*:

The course will

A. Expand students’ understanding and appreciation of the major religions of the world and their histories. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

B. Guide students’ toward an awareness of similarities among all religions and of basic differences among the major religions of the world. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

C. Demonstrate how the understanding of different religions can help one understand a particular religion. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

D. Grow students understanding and appreciation of spiritual perspectives. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

E. Foster students’ awareness of how an understanding of religion can help in the understanding of life itself. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

F. Develop students’ understanding of the role religion plays in the lives of devoted followers. II.1, II.3, II.4, II.6, III.2, IV.2

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference the university parallel program General Education Goals.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

Students will be able to:

1. Describe the basic beliefs of the religions studied. A
2. Describe the contrasts between the religions studied. B
3. Describe the historical context of the religions studied. A, B
4. Name the basic texts of the religions studied. A, B, C
5. Describe the basic rituals and stories of religion. A, B, C
6. Compare various ideas about what religion is. A, B, D, F
7. Identify basic divisions within and genealogies of religions studied. A, C, D
8. Describe some possible relations between religion and morality. E, F
9. Describe possible relations between religion and science. E, F
10. Describe some views on the relation between faith and reason. D, E
11. Describe some different views on what ‘salvation’ is. D, E, F
12. Describe some views on the place of faith in religion. D, E, F
13. Describe different views on why ‘salvation’ is needed. D, E, F
14. Describe different views on the origin and purpose of religion. A, E, F

* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

The grade will be based entirely upon essay exams and a major paper.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work:

N/A

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

100 – 90 = A
89 – 85 = B+
84 – 80 = B
79 – 75 = C+
74 – 70 = C
69 – 60 = D
59 – 00 = F

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following
practices:
• Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or
devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or
completing academic assignments.
• Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting
published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services,
without proper documentation of the original source.
• Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by
another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as
one’s own work.
• Taking an exam for another student.
• Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or
other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
• Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical
information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated
should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students
must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with
Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students
with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-
7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/.