

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Humanities
Department of Religious Studies

Course Information
Rels 200 L01, Winter 2010
The Origin and Nature of Religious Worldviews

Time and place

- MWF 9:00 - 9:50am
- room: A140

Instructors

- Prof. Lyle Eslinger - email: eslinger@ucalgary.ca; phone: 403-220-3281; office: SS1334; office hours: W 2:00-3:00pm
- GTA: Kathleen Jones - email: kejoness@ucalgary.ca; office: SS1325; meetings by appointment.
- GTA: Kyle Nunweiler - email: kgnunwei@ucalgary.ca; office: SS1325; meetings by appointment.

Textbooks

- W. Matthews, *World Religions* (Thomson/Wadsworth, current edition).

Course description

Rels 200 takes an evolutionary ecology approach to the mythology of Asia's world religions. Rels 200 considers religious mythology as an adaptive response to environment, surveying representative religious traditions in three regions: south Asia (Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism), east Asia (Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, and Shinto), and west Asia (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam).

Course Requirements

- (20%) First text interpretation (05 Feb due in class 12 Feb; [5%/day late penalty])
- (30%) Mid-term exam (1 hr., 01 March). N.B.: must be written as scheduled; mark your calendar now.
- (20%) Second text interpretation (19 Mar due in class 26 Mar; [5%/day late penalty])
- (30%) Final exam (1 hr. registrar scheduled)

Notes:

1. Additional or alternative credit work will not be offered.
2. Missed examinations: if an examination is missed for health reasons designated by the University as not requiring a physician's validation (H1N1), its credit weight will be transferred to the subsequent examination.

Grading scheme

- A+ 100-95
- A 94-90
- A- 89-85
- B+ 84-80
- B 79-75
- B- 74-70
- C+ 69-65
- C 64-60
- C- 59-55
- D+ 54-50
- D 49-45
- F 44-0

Academic Honesty

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity (*University Calendar*, see index item, "Misconduct, academic").