

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies 203 L01
World Religions - Eastern
Course Outline Fall 2010

INSTRUCTOR	Leslie Kawamura
CLASS TIME AND ROOM	Monday Evening 18:30 – 21:20 ST 135
OFFICE/OFFICE HOURS	SS 1312 by appointment
TELEPHONE	403-220-5886 (leave a message) 403-220-3073 direct to office
E-MAIL	kawamura@ucalgary.ca

Required Textbook

John Y. Fenton et al, *Religions of Asia*, St. Martin's Press, 1993

Course Description:

World Religions - Eastern

This course will focus on the Religions of India, Tibet, China, and Japan.

Course Contents:

In this course we will examine the major religious traditions of Asia (South, East and SE Asia). Consequently, it will be an examination of the Religions of India (ie. The Theistic Religions of the Vedas, Classical Hinduism, Modern Hinduism, Jainism and Sikhism and the Development of the Atheistic Religion of Buddhism in India and its spread to Central Asia, China and Japan). We will then examine the Religions of China and Japan.

It is important to note that all world religions have their own religious foundation and therefore, this course does not intend to focus on one religious tradition as the correct one, nor does it focus on any religious traditions as incorrect. Rather, the course intends to have the student understand each tradition on its own merits and thus, at one time, the instructor will take the role of a Hindu and at other times that of a Jain, a Buddhist, a Confucianist, a Daoist, or a Shintoist as the course may demand.

Course Requirements:

To complete this course, the student is expected to complete **four tests on the scheduled dates**, as follows:

Test 1	30 points	October 18
Test 2	30 points	November 15
Test 3	30 points	November 29
Test 4	10 points	December 06
Total	100 points	

Course Schedule

- Sept 13 – Introduction to Eastern Religions (textbook pp. 1-20)
 The Earliest Forms of Hinduism (pp. 21- 23)
 The Indus Civilization (pp. 24 – 27)
- Sept 20 – The Religion of Vedas (27-38)
- Sept 27 – Classical Hinduism, Social Codes and New Society (p. 40 - 45)
 --A possible film on Hinduism.
- Oct 4 – Classical Hinduism -- Way of Action (p. - 52)
 Way of Knowledge (pp. 53 – 65)
 Way of Devotion (pp. 66- 80)
 Modern Hinduism, (pp. 81-88)
- Oct 11 – **Thanksgiving - No class**
- Oct 18 – TEST 1 during the first half of the lecture time
 Jainism and Sikhism (pp. 89- 102)
 The Rise of Buddhism (pp. 102-114)
- Oct 25 – Buddhism (continued pp. 102-114)
- Nov 1 – Buddhism in India (pp. 115-131)
- Nov 8 – Buddhism as a World Religion (pp. 132 – 156)
 --A possible film on Buddhism
- Nov 15 – TEST 2 during the first half of the lecture time
 Roots of Religion in China (pp. 161- 175)
 --A possible film on Chinese Religions
- Nov. 22 – Three Visions of Harmony: Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist (pp. 176-181)
 Neo Confucianism from Classical Era to Modern Times (pp. 184-196)
- Nov 29 – TEST 3 during the first half of the lecture time
 Japan’s Religions – From Prehistory to Modern Times (pp. 197- 215)
 --A possible film on Japanese Religion
- Dec 06 – TEST 4

** There will be no Registrar scheduled Final Examination in this course.*

Grading:

Grading will be based on an accumulation of points. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme in accord with the numbers of points earned:

A+	100 – 98	A	93 – 97	A-	90 - 92
B+	85 89	B	80 - 84	B-	75- 79
C+	70- 74	C	65– 69	C-	60- 64
D+	55- 59	D	50– 54	F	49 or less

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense, the penalty for which is an **F** on the assignment and possibly also an **F** in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw.

The University Calendar states that "*plagiarism exists when:*

a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),

- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,*
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or*
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."*

Please note:

- 1) E-mail queries will be received and answered as soon as possible.**
- 2) No cell phones will be allowed in classroom during lectures and tests. As a courtesy to other students, please turn off your cell phones during lecture time.**
- 3) A make-up test will be considered only when the student is ill and can show this by means of a Doctor's letter (a note written on a prescription pad paper WILL NOT be accepted).**
- 4) A make-up test can be requested when there is a death in the family. This can be certified by an Obituary posted in a Newspaper or a written statement by the Funeral Home on its official stationery indicating you as a member of the family.**

Academic Accommodation:

If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor **two weeks** before the scheduled test date.