

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**Religious Studies 203 L20
World Religions — Eastern**

**Course Outline
Spring 2011**

Instructor: Seng L. Chia
Class day and time: MW 2:00-4:45pm
Class location: EDC 388
Office: SS 1330
Office hours: W 10:00am-12:00pm or by appointment
Phone: 403-220-5612
Email: slchia@ucalgary.ca

Required Text

Oxtoby, Williard G. and Amore, Roy C. *World Religions: Eastern Traditions*. Third Edition.
Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Course Description

In the course of study, participants will examine the Hindu, Jain, Buddhist (Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana), and Chinese (Confucianism, Daoism, and other philosophers) religious traditions.

Course Requirements

I. Participation

Regular attendance and class participation are strongly encouraged. If you must miss any class, it is your responsibility to acquire the notes on the lectures and films you missed from your classmates. Classroom lectures will address subjects from the textbook as well as other sources, which will be presented in class and posted on Blackboard. Completing assigned readings prior to class is strongly encouraged, as doing so will enhance the interaction between students and the lecturer and entail a better learning experience for all.

II. Group Discussion and Reports

There will be two group discussions based on the readings posted on Blackboard. Students will be divided into small groups to discuss the main concepts presented in the readings and each student will submit a report of the discussion. Each report is worth 5% of the total grade, for a total of 10%.

III. Examinations

The exams will be based on both the textbook and the class lectures. Students will be tested on their understanding of the key concepts presented in the texts, lectures, films, and discussions.

The format of the exams consists of three sections. In section A (5%), participants must correctly match ten key terms to ten brief definitions. In section B (10%), participants must identify the source, explain the meaning, and state the significance of two quotes derived from the primary texts. Section C (15%) consists of a long essay question. Participants will choose one of three questions to answer in the form of an essay (approx. 2 pages).

Exam dates are as follows:

Exam 1: Wednesday, May 30, 2011	30%
Exam 2: Monday, June 13, 2011	30%
Final Exam: Registrar-scheduled	30%

Grading Scale

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+	100 - 96	A	95.9 - 90	A-	89.9 - 85
B+	84.9 - 80	B	79.9 - 75	B-	74.9 - 70
C+	69.9 - 65	C	64.9 - 60	C-	59.9 - 55
D+	54.9 - 53	D	52.9-50	F	Under 50

Academic Honesty

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

Course Schedule

Date	Content	Sources
Wed 5/11	Hinduism	Oxtoby, chapter 2
Mon 5/16	Hinduism & group discussion	Oxtoby, chapter 2 & article*
Wed 5/18	Jainism	Oxtoby, chapter 4 & article*
Mon 5/25	Jainism and film	Oxtoby, chapter 4
Mon 5/30	Exam 1 & Buddhism	Oxtoby, chapter 5
Wed 6/1	Buddhism	Oxtoby, chapter 5
Mon 6/6	Buddhism	Oxtoby, chapter 5
Wed 6/8	Film & group discussion	Article*
Mon 6/13	Exam 2 & Confucianism	Oxtoby, chapter 6
Wed 6/15	Xunzi & Mozi	Article*
Mon 6/20	Daoism	Oxtoby, chapter 6
Wed 6/22	Daoism & film	Oxtoby, chapter 6
Scheduled by Registrar	Final exam	

*Articles will be posted on Blackboard

Please note:

- 1) E-mail queries will be answered as soon as possible.
- 2) As a courtesy to other students, cell phones, texting, and chatting will not be allowed in class.

3) A make-up test will be considered only when the student is ill or there is a death of a loved one.

Academic Accommodation:

For students who require academic accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Disability Resource Centre at 403-220-8237.

Gnosis

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.