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Philosophy (PHIL) 1531 The World's Living Religions (3 Units) CSU:UC
[formerly Philosophy 31]

Advisory: Eligibility for English 1500 strongly recommended

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Catalog Description: This is a presentation of the distinctive features of Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Confucianism, Taoism, Hinduism, Buddhism, the Americas and Africa. The purpose of the course is to provide an understanding of the world's great religions, and an appreciation of the contributions of religions to our cultural heritage.

Text: Matthews, Warren. *World Religions*, 7th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2013. Print.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Additional Instructional Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

1. identify the basic beliefs and major concepts of the world's leading religions,
2. analyze the time setting and development of the religions, and
3. evaluate the importance of and major contributions of religion to our age.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I Religions Arising in the Near East

- A. Ancient Mesopotamia practices
- B. Judaism
- C. Christianity
- D. Islam

Unit II Religions Arising in India

- A. Hinduism
- B. Buddhism

C. Sikhism

Unit III Religions arising in China and Japan

- A. Confucianism
- B. Taoism
- C. Shintoism
- D. Zen Buddhism

Unit IV Religions Arising in Africa and the Americas

- A. Ancient Egyptian
- B. Basongye
- C. Yoruba
- D. Tribal Religions of North America
- E. Hopi
- F. Aztecs
- G. Incas

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

- 1. Studying
- 2. Completing required reading
- 3. Written work

Methods of Instruction:

- 1. Assigned readings from the text
- 2. Lectures
- 3. Class discussions
- 4. Digital recordings
- 5. Speakers from the representative religious groups

Methods of Evaluations:

- 1. Substantial writing assignments, including:
 - a. term or other papers
- 2. Other examinations, including:
 - a. multiple choice
 - b. true/false items