

Course Design Matrix

Course Name: Introduction to Religion	
Instructor Name: Dr. Lanelle Smith	Date:
Program MLOs Addressed: [Optional]	
Course Learning MLOs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. Explain the differences between different definitions of “religion.” <i>(Module 1)</i>II. Differentiate between arguments of where religion came from. <i>(Module 1)</i>III. Demonstrate the differences between religious studies, philosophy of religion, and theology. <i>(Module 1)</i>IV. Develop the ability to use religious studies as a “lens” for looking at a culture. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>V. Critique different methodological approaches used in the study of religions. <i>(Module 1)</i>VI. Discuss how religion can be defined as a cultural system. <i>(Module 1)</i>VII. Develop the ability to speak and write critically about religion in such a way as to present a nuanced argument that contextualizes religious traditions and religious people in a way appropriate to a complex historical understanding. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>VIII. Develop an understanding of the history, major figures, significant texts and modern contexts for both Eastern and Western religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Taoism, Confucianism, Sikhism, Shinto, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Bahá’í. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>IX. Demonstrate knowledge of the modern religious context, including new religious movements, globalization, revitalization movements, and sectarianism. <i>(Module 7)</i>X. Recognize and interpret religious symbolism. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>XI. Develop critical thinking through an analysis of religious phenomena. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>XII. Demonstrate improved ability to communicate both orally and in writing. <i>(Modules 1 through 7)</i>	

Module # and Title	Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)	Module Learning Outcomes (MLOs)	Assessments and Rubrics	Instructional Materials	Activities: Learner Interaction & Engagement
<p>Module 1: <i>Religious Responses; Indigenous Sacred Ways</i></p>	<p>I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>1.1 Define basic religious studies terms and concepts relating to the nature & origin of religion, and to indigenous religions. (CLOs I, II, III, IV, & V)</p> <p>1.2 Explain various definitions of religion, and differences between religious studies, philosophy of religion & theology. (CLOs I & III)</p> <p>1.3 Critically analyze arguments re: the origin & nature of religion, and various methodological approaches to its study. (CLOs II & V)</p> <p>1.4 Critically analyze how religions may be understood as cultural systems, and how religious studies can be a “lens” for looking at cultures. (CLOs IV & VI)</p> <p>1.5 Explain religious beliefs & practices in indigenous cultures. (CLOs IV, VII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Quiz Religious studies vocabulary & basic concepts relating to the nature & origin of religion, and to indigenous religions (MLO 1.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: Religious Responses a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 1.2, 1.3, & 1.4</p> <p>B: Indigenous Sacred Ways a. Discussion Rubric b. MLO 1.5</p> <p>Essay How might various systems or key features of indigenous religious beliefs & practices contribute to or constitute “cultural systems”? a. Essay Rubric b. MLOs 1.4 & 1.5</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapters 1 & 2 (MLOs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, & 1.5)</p> <p>Module 1 lecture: “Exploration of Religious Responses & Indigenous Sacred Ways” (MLOs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, & 1.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module’s exploration lecture notes (MLOs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, & 1.5)</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>Student Introductions (not graded)</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, & 1.5)</p>
<p>Module 2: <i>Hinduism</i></p>	<p>IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>2.1 Define basic Hindu terms and concepts. (CLO VIII)</p>	<p>Quiz Hindu vocabulary & basic concepts (MLO 2.1)</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapter 3 (MLOs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5)</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5)</p>

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		<p>2.2 Explain the origins and historical development of Hinduism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>2.3 Critically analyze Hindu scriptures, beliefs and practices. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>2.4. Compare and contrast the major sects or branches of Hinduism today. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>2.5. Compare and contrast early & later forms of Hinduism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Discussion A: "God" in Hinduism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 2.2, 2.3, & 2.4</p> <p>B: Hinduism as an "-ism" a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 2.2, 2.3, & 2.4</p> <p>Essay Compare/contrast early & later Hinduism a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 2.5</p>	<p>Module 2 lecture: "Exploration of Hinduism" (MLOs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module's exploration lecture notes (MLOs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5)</p>	
<p>Module 3: <i>Jainism & Buddhism</i></p>	<p>IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>3.1 Define basic Jain & Buddhist terms and concepts. (CLOs VIII)</p> <p>3.2 Explain the origins and historical development of Jainism & Buddhism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Quiz Jain & Buddhist vocabulary & basic concepts (MLO 3.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: Jainism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 3.2, 3.3, & 3.4</p>	<p>Read Chapters 4 & 5 (MLOs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, & 3.5)</p> <p>Module 3 lecture: "Exploration of Jainism & Buddhism"</p>	<p>Discussions A & B (MLOs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, & 3.5)</p>

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		<p>3.3 Critically analyze Jain & Buddhist scriptures, beliefs, and practices. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>3.4 Compare and contrast the major sects or branches of Jainism & Buddhism today. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>3.5 Compare and contrast Jainism & Buddhism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>B: Buddhism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 3.2, 3.3, & 3.4</p> <p>Essay Compare/contrast Jainism & Buddhism a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 3.5</p>	<p>(MLOs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, & 3.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module's exploration lecture notes (MLOs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, & 3.5)</p>	
<p>Module 4: <i>Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto</i></p>	<p>IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>4.1 Define basic Daoist, Confucian & Shinto terms and concepts. (CLO VIII)</p> <p>4.2 Explain the origins and historical development of Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Quiz Daoist, Confucian & Shinto vocabulary & basic concepts (MLO 4.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: Daoism & Confucianism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 4.2, 4.3, & 4.4</p> <p>B: Shinto</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapters 6 & 7 (MLOs 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, & 4.5)</p> <p>Module 4 lecture: "Exploration of Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto" (MLOs 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, & 4.5)</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, & 4.5)</p>

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		<p>4.3 Critically analyze Daoist, Confucian & Shinto scriptures, beliefs, and practices. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>4.4 Compare and contrast the major sects or branches of Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto today. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>4.5 Compare/contrast Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 4.2, 4.3, & 4.4</p> <p>Essay Compare/contrast Daoism, Confucianism & Shinto a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 4.5</p>	<p>Web links assigned within module's exploration lecture notes (MLOs 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, & 4.5)</p>	
<p>Module 5: <i>Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity</i></p>	<p>IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>5.1 Define basic Zoroastrian, Jewish & Christian terms and concepts. (CLOs VIII)</p> <p>5.2 Explain the origins and historical development of Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>5.3 Critically analyze Zoroastrian, Jewish & Christian scriptures, beliefs, and practices.</p>	<p>Quiz Zoroastrian, Jewish & Christian vocabulary & basic concepts (MLO 5.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: Judaism & Zoroastrianism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 5.2, 5.3, & 5.4</p> <p>B: Christianity a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 5.2, 5.3, & 5.4</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapters 8 & 9, plus pp. 242-245 (MLOs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, & 5.5)</p> <p>Module 5 lecture: "Exploration of Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity" (MLOs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, & 5.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module's</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, & 5.5)</p>

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		<p>(CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>5.4 Compare and contrast the major sects or branches of Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity today. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>5.5 Compare and contrast Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Essay Compare/contrast Zoroastrianism, Judaism & Christianity a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 5.5</p>	<p>exploration lecture notes (MLOs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, & 5.5)</p>	
<p>Module 6: <i>Islam & Sikhism</i></p>	<p>IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII</p>	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>6.1 Define basic Islamic & Sikh terms and concepts. (CLOs VIII)</p> <p>6.2 Explain the origins and historical development of Islam & Sikhism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>6.3 Critically analyze Islamic & Sikh scriptures, beliefs, and practices. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>6.4 Compare and contrast the major sects or branches of Islam & Sikhism today. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Quiz Islamic & Sikh vocabulary & basic concepts (MLO 6.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: Islam a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 6.2, 6.3, & 6.4</p> <p>B: Sikhism a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 6.2, 6.3, & 6.4</p> <p>Essay Compare/contrast Islam & Sikhism a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 6.5</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapters 10 & 11 (MLOs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, & 6.5)</p> <p>Module 6 lecture: "Exploration of Islam & Sikhism" (MLOs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, & 6.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module's exploration lecture notes (MLOs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, & 6.5)</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, & 6.5)</p>

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		6.5 Compare and contrast Islam & Sikhism. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, X, XI, & XII)			
Module 7: <i>New Religious Movements; Religion in the 21st Century</i>	IV, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII	<p>After completing this module, the student will be able to:</p> <p>7.1 Define basic religious studies terms and concepts relating to new religious movements & contemporary religious challenges & changes. (CLOs VIII)</p> <p>7.2 Explain representative new religious movements, such as Baha'i. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>7.3 Critically analyze contemporary globalization, revitalization, and sectarian movements. (CLOs IV, VII, IX, X, XI, & XII)</p> <p>7.4 Critically analyze the relation between religion & modernity, and trends & influences re: the future of religion. (CLOs IV, VII, IX, X, XI, & XII)</p>	<p>Quiz Religious studies vocabulary & basic concepts relating to new religious movements, modernity & contemporary developments (MLO 7.1)</p> <p>Discussion A: New Religious Movements a. Discussion Rubric b. MLO 7.2</p> <p>B: Religion in the 21st Century a. Discussion Rubric b. MLOs 7.3 & 7.4</p> <p>Essay How do new religious movements constitute responses to contemporary religious developments & modern trends or challenges?</p>	<p>Read</p> <p>Chapters 12 & 13 (MLOs 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, & 7.5)</p> <p>Module 7 lecture: "Exploration of New Religious Movements & Religion in the 21st Century" (MLOs 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, & 7.5)</p> <p>Web links assigned within module's exploration lecture notes (MLOs 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, & 7.5)</p>	<p>Discussions</p> <p>A & B (MLOs 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, & 7.5)</p>

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		7.5 Evaluate how new religious movements constitute responses to contemporary religious developments & modern trends or challenges. (CLOs IV, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, & XII)	a. Essay Rubric b. MLO 7.5		

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