



NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYVILLE | KANSAS CITY

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

**HUM 26-162, Comparative Religions. 48 contact hours, 3 credit hours
5-Week Summer Session**

Instructor: TBA
Email: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

Prerequisites: None.

Textbook and supplementary materials: Ellwood, Robert S. and Barbara A. McGraw. *Many Peoples, Many Faiths: Women and Men in the World Religions*. Tenth Edition. New York: Pearson, 2014. Additional reading will be posted online.

Course description: This course is intended to introduce students to the variety of ways that peoples across time and space have addressed the concept of the sacred. It will give students an overview of the belief systems and religious practices of various cultures throughout the world.

Student learning outcomes: Students will learn

- (1) to define what they mean by religion and what a religion includes,
- (2) to discuss religion in terms of the human experience,
- (3) to discuss the methods for approaching the study of religion (descriptive, critical, and historical), and
- (4) to develop an appreciation for religious differences and similarities.

Communicating: Communicate clearly and coherently for a diverse range of audiences and purposes

Critical Thinking: Distinguish and understand the modes of inquiry used within the liberal arts and sciences disciplines; Investigate large-scale questions about human behavior and society

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Understand and articulate the importance and influence of diversity, equity, and inclusion within and among cultures and societies and in the world

Managing Information: Use appropriate technologies to access, evaluate, and manage information to prepare and present their work effectively

Program Outcomes	Course Outcomes	Assessments
Communicating	Use research effectively in written text	Essays
Critical Thinking	Produce original expression of ideas	Essays
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Identify social and institutional changes that have fostered equality and inclusion; Demonstrate knowledge of this history of oppression	Essays, Quizzes, Exams
Managing Information	Gather, distill, and present information; Generate information using contemporary technologies; Access information using contemporary technologies including print and digital books, journals, and interactive material	Essays, Quizzes, Exams
Valuing	Compare historical value perspectives recognizing similarities and conflicts; Recognize past ramifications of value decisions of others	Essays, Quizzes, Exams

Assessment methods: Your grade will be based on a combination of exams, quizzes, and primary source assignments. There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, fill-in the blank questions, possible geography identification questions, short-answer Ids, and essays. The grading scale is as follows: A = 90%; B = 80%; etc.

Students are also expected to be able to answer questions from the readings and lecture material as well as ask relevant questions consistently throughout the semester.

Instructional methods: This class will consist of text and primary reading assignments. Students will receive feedback through their writing assessments.

Grading scale: There are 510 points available for this course. 90%= A; 80% = B; 70%= C; 60%= D; F=59% and below.

Disclaimer: Course schedule is subject to change and you will be responsible for abiding by any such changes. Your instructor will notify you of any changes.

**Humanities 162
Comparative Religions
Course Schedule**

Note: Course schedule is subject to change with instructor notification and students will be responsible for abiding by these changes.

Dates	Topic	Reading from Ellwood	Media	Supplemental Texts	Assessment - writing	Project - Pilgrimage
Week 1:	Study of religion; Indigenous Religions	Read Chapter One: Understanding the World's Religious Heritage Read Chapter Two: The Sacred in Nature		<i>Body Ritual Among the Nacerima</i>	Summarize the article in words. What is the author's point in writing this article? (250 words)	
Week 2:	Hinduism	Read Chapter Three: Life Against Time		<i>Bhagavad Gita</i>	DBQ - 10 points (250 words)	
Week 3: Mid-Term	Buddhism	Read Chapter Four: Wisdom Embarked for the Farther Shore	<i>Kundun</i> – 50 points (500 words)	<i>Fourth Noble Truth</i> by Walpola Rahula Memorial on the Bone of the Buddha Emperor Wuzong's Edict on the Suppression of Buddhism	DBQs - 10 points (250 words)	Pilgrimage – 20 points (500 words)
	Shinto, The Dao, Ancestorism	Read Chapter Five: Dragon and Sun	Sweeping the Tomb Day	Selections from the <i>Daodejing</i>	DBQs - 10 points (250 words)	

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				Selections from Confucius		
Week 4:	Zoroastrianism	Read Chapter Six: One God, Many Words of Wonder	Documentary on Jerusalem			Pilgrimage – 20 points (500 words)
	Judaism	Read Chapter Seven: Keeping Covenant With God in History	<i>God on Trial</i> – 50 points (500 words)	Assyrian Siege of Jerusalem	DBQs - 10 points (250 words)	
Week 5:	Christianity	Read Chapter Eight: Spreading the Word of God in the World	<i>Holding the Key</i>	First Crusade	DBQs - 10 points (250 words)	Pilgrimage – 20 points (500 words)
	Islam	Read Chapter Nine: Submitting to the Will of God	Instruction on the Hajj; <i>Inside Mecca</i>	Expansion of the Early Islamic Empire		

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Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes as specified in the course syllabi for each course. As there are no specified classes in the course syllabus for students to attend, attendance will not be tracked. Please refer to the university policy on attendance at <https://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Attendance.pdf>

Final exams: If an emergency occurs that prevents the administration of a course scheduled final examination, the final course grades will be calculated based on the work in the course completed to that point in time and the faculty member's considered judgment. Final exams will not be rescheduled, and a grade of "I" will not be given as a result of an institutional cancellation of a final examination. This final exam policy does not apply to online courses.

Administrative drop: An instructor may request the Office of the Registrar delete a student from a course roster if the student has not met the prerequisite for the course as stated in the catalog, or as a result of non-attendance in the course.

University communications: Students are expected to use their Northwest student email account for any electronic correspondence within the university. Students are also strongly advised to check their email and CatPAWS accounts on a regular basis.

Code of Academic Integrity: The students, faculty, and staff at Northwest endeavor to sustain an environment that values honesty in academic work, that acknowledges the authorized aid provided by and intellectual contributions of others, and that enables equitable student evaluation. Please refer to Northwest Missouri State University's Academic Honesty Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Academic-Integrity.pdf>

Special accommodations policy: Northwest Missouri State University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [ADA] and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 [ADAAA]. If a student has a disability that qualifies under the ADA/ADAAA and requires accommodations, they should contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility for information on appropriate policies and procedures at 660.562.1639, or pjp@nwmissouri.edu / ADA@nwmissouri.edu. For the university policy on disability accommodation refer to <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/student/Disability-Accommodation.pdf>

Non-discrimination and anti-harassment policy: Northwest Missouri State University is committed to maintaining an environment for all faculty, staff, students, and third parties that is free of illegal discrimination and harassment. Please refer to the Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/diversity/titlevi.htm>

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) policy: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (commonly known as the Buckley Amendment), is a federal law which provides that colleges and universities will maintain the confidentiality of student education records. Please refer to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Family-Educational-Rights-and-Privacy-Act.pdf>

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