RELIS 100 – CRN20376 –SPRING 2010
RELIGIONS OF THE MODERN WORLD

IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Instructor: Ms. Suzi Jacobson
Contact: e-mail: suzi.jacobson@imperial.edu phone: (760) 791-2526
Room: Wednesday evening-Room 1602

I. Course Description
An introduction to the various contemporary religions of the world. Study of the basic beliefs, history and tradition of the world’s major religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Objectivity and impartiality are important characteristics of our study. We seek to understand the world’s religions, not evaluate their comparative merits.

Required Texts
- Living Religions, Seventh Ed. by Mary Pat Fisher – Pearson/Prentice Hall Pub.
- Encountering God: A Spiritual Journey from Bozeman to Benares, Diana L. Eck-Beacon Press, Boston
- Other readings as assigned

II. Student Learning Objectives
At the conclusion of the course students will be able to:

- Identify and discuss the nature of religious revelation and interpretation of sacred texts.
- Recognize the relationship between religion and culture and the relevance of religious belief and experience to modern life and the human condition.
- Identify the origin, characteristic beliefs, practices, and terminology unique to the religions we study.

III. Course Requirements
Students are expected to attend all lectures, arrive on time, and to remain for the entire class period. Lectures and class discussions assume familiarity with text materials and students should be prepared with questions or comments intended to clarify or expand on the content of the readings.

IV. Attendance is expected
- because participation in class is an important learning opportunity;
- because lectures, presentations, and examinations will contain material supplementing assigned readings;
- and because your learning will suffer when you are not present.
Students who miss class are responsible for material covered in their absence, including other students’ presentations.

V. Course Development and Grading
There will be unit quizzes, short written assignments, a research paper and a comprehensive final exam. You will sign up for your research paper topic early in the semester and papers will be due throughout the term. Both a written paper and a classroom presentation of your research will be required.

VI. Grade Distribution
Course grade will be a percentage of points earned divided by points available. A 94-100%; A- 90-93%; B+ 87-89%; B 84-86%; B- 80-83%; C+ 77-79%; C 74-76; C- 70-73%; D 60-69%; F less than or equal to 59%.

VII. IVC Drop Policy
A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class may be dropped by the instructor immediately following that class. Should readmission be desired, the student’s status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. Instructors are expected to take a student’s attendance record into account in computing grades. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences after the close of registration have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week. A student who is tardy three times may be considered as having been absent once. Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved conferences and contests and attendance upon field trips will not be counted as absences.

VIII. Academic Integrity
Academic integrity includes a commitment neither to engage in nor tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another person’s work as one’s own, using Internet sources without citation, fabricating field data or citations, stealing examinations, tampering with the academic
Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) office as soon as possible. The DSPS office is located in the Health Sciences Building, room 2117. The telephone number is 355-6312.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Overview Lecture &amp; Discussion</td>
<td>● “What’s your religious IQ?”&lt;br&gt;● “My religious experience”</td>
<td>Apr 21</td>
<td>Islam 1</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 10 pp. 378-398&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck-Ch. 3 “The Names of God”&lt;br&gt;● Islam papers due</td>
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<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>Religious Responses</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 1&lt;br&gt;● Writing Assign. #1 due</td>
<td>Apr 28</td>
<td>Islam 2</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 10 pp. 399-429&lt;br&gt;● present Islam papers&lt;br&gt;● Writing Assign. #3 due</td>
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<td>Mar 3</td>
<td>Indigenous Sacred Ways</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH.2&lt;br&gt;● Quiz #1</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Hinduism 1</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 3 pp. 72-96&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck-Ch. 4 “The Faces of God”&lt;br&gt;● Hinduism papers due</td>
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<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>Judaism 1</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 8 pp. 235-260&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck Ch. 1 “Bozeman to Benares”&lt;br&gt;● Judaism papers due</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Hinduism 2</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 3 pp. 97-117&lt;br&gt;● present Hinduism papers&lt;br&gt;● Quiz #3</td>
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<td>Mar 17</td>
<td>Judaism 2</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 8 pp. 260-291&lt;br&gt;● present Judaism papers&lt;br&gt;● Quiz #2</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Buddhism 1</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 4 pp.134-158&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck Ch. 5 “The Breath of God”&lt;br&gt;● Buddhism papers due;&lt;br&gt;● Writing Assign. #4 due</td>
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<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>Christianity 1</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 9 pp. 295-321&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck-Ch.2 “Fron. of Encounter”&lt;br&gt;● Christianity papers due</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Buddhism 2</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 4 pp. 158-178&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck Ch. 6 “Attention to God”&lt;br&gt;● present Buddhism papers&lt;br&gt;● Quiz #4</td>
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<td>Mar 31</td>
<td>Christianity 2</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 9 pp. 336-358&lt;br&gt;● Writing Assign. #2 due&lt;br&gt;● present Christianity papers</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>Daoism &amp; Confucianism</td>
<td>● Read FISHER CH. 6&lt;br&gt;● Read Eck Ch. 7 “Is Our God Listening?”</td>
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<td>Apr 14</td>
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<td><strong>COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
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