

Master Syllabus

REL 1112 - Western Religions

Division: Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

Department: Religious Studies

Credit Hour Total: 3.0

Lecture Hrs: 3.0

Date Revised: June 2014

Course Description:

Introduction to Western religions and cultural traditions, including beliefs, practices, stories, rituals and historical context.

General Education Outcomes:

- ❑ Oral Communication
- ❑ Written Communication
- ❑ Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- ❑ Values/Citizenship/Community
- ❑ Computer Literacy
- ❑ Information Literacy

Course Outcomes:

Historical origins and developments of each Western tradition

Discuss the history and development of the traditions, based on texts, lessons and personal reflections. Analyze the interaction between the historic faiths and the cultures from which they arise, as seen in beliefs and practices. Reflect critically on how religions emerge in specific socio-historical contexts and shape cultural values.

Assessment Method: Behavioral observations

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Basic practices and teachings of Western Religions

Identify, examine and discuss the essential practices, beliefs, ceremonies and people within the Western traditions covered in the course.

Assessment Method: Behavioral observations

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Religious awareness, diversity and interfaith dialogue

Compare and contrast, analyze, and discuss the various Western traditions from a variety of perspectives. Engage in rational discourse in a respectful manner with interfaith dialogue between religions.

Assessment Method: Behavioral observations

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric

Outline:

Judaism (History, Beliefs, Rituals)The HolocaustChristianity (History, Beliefs, Rituals)Islam (History, Beliefs, Rituals)