

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage:	Fall 2018
Discipline:	Philosophy and Religious Studies
Course Number and Title:	PHIL 172 Religions of the East
Division:	Lower
Faculty Name:	Dr. Kaiqi Hua
Semester Credit Hours:	3

Meeting: A Days, 1400-1520, Berlin Restaurant

Prerequisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the history of religions in the Asian world, including East, Southeast and South Asia, from ancient to modern eras. We will study major religious traditions: Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism, Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Shintoism. We will also conduct case studies of various religious schools and movements. This course emphasizes the geopolitical and social impact of religious individuals, communities, institutions, and activities upon different cultures. We will examine the development of religious ideology, doctrines, ethics, literature, and ritual practice. Our class aims to better understand the interactions between different religious traditions in a broader socio-political context, by crossing both spatial and social boundaries. We will use multiple academic approaches to understand these religious traditions, by reading primary sources, analyzing religious texts, and examining popular practices. The course will survey and discuss the key issues, texts, images, ideas, figures, practices, institutions, and popular deities that continue to shape religious landscape in the East.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Be able to provide a short summary of the emergence and popularization of major Asian religions and their doctrine, text, and practice.
2. Analyze the impact of politics, trade and culture on the formation, development and spread of religions in Asia.
3. Apply historical and anthropological methods to explain the interactions and mutual influences between different religions.
4. Interpret a variety of primary sources, from ancient religious texts, archaeological artifacts, to modern travel accounts.
5. Determine historical contexts from texts and images and reconstruct social and cultural networks related to religious contacts in Asia.

6. Challenge the dominant narrative of religious orthodoxy and increase critical thinking skills to apprehend religious pluralism including religious coexistence and shared spiritual beliefs and sacred space.

7. Develop cross-cultural skills to observe and appreciate the influence of religions on different societies, in the past and present.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: John L. Esposito, Darrell J. Fasching, and Todd T. Lewis

TITLE: Religions of Asia Today

PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press

ISBN #: 9780190642426

DATE/EDITION: 2017/4th edition

AUTHOR: Robert Van Voorst

TITLE: Anthology of World Scriptures

PUBLISHER: Wadsworth Publishing

ISBN #: 9781305584495

DATE/EDITION: 2016/9th edition

Other readings will be uploaded on the Canvas course website.

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Hamburg, Germany – September 9

A1–September 11: Asia and Religion, Religious Scriptures - Voorst, Chapter 1

A2– September 13: Asia and Religion, Religious Scriptures - Esposito, Chapter 1

Barcelona, Spain – September 15-16

Valencia, Spain – September 17-18

A3–September 19: Buddhism - Voorst, Chapter 3

A4– September 21: Buddhism - Esposito, Chapter 4

Study Day – September 23: No Class

A5–September 24: Zoroastrianism - Voorst, Chapter 9

A6–September 26: Islam - Voorst, Chapter 12

Tema, Ghana – September 27-28

Takoradi, Ghana – September 29-30

Community Programming – October 2: No Class

A7–October 3: Islam - Esposito, Chapter 6

A8– October 5: Confucianism and Daoism - Voorst, Chapter 6, 7

Cape Town, South Africa – October 7-12

A9–October 13: Confucianism and Daoism - Esposito, Chapter 5 (Confucianism, Daoism)

A10–October 15: Three Indian Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism – Voorst, Chapter 2

Study Day –October 16: No Class

A11–October 18: Three Indian Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism – Voorst, Chapter 4

Port Louis, Mauritius – October 19

Study Day –October 21: No Class

A12–October 22: Three Indian Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism – Voorst, Chapter 5

A13– October 24: Three Indian Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism - Esposito, Chapter 3

Cochin, India – October 25-30

Reflection and Study–October 31: Global Studies

A14–November 2: Rogers, Benedict. 2008. "The Saffron Revolution: The Role of Religion in Burma's Movement for Peace and Democracy." *Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions* 9 (1): 115–18.

Schober, Juliane. 2011. *Modern Buddhist Conjunctures in Myanmar: Cultural Narratives, Colonial Legacies, and Civil Society*. University of Hawai'i Press. Chapters 6, 7, and 8. pp.99-154.

Yangon, Myanmar – November 4-8

A15–November 9: Film: "Burma VJ"

Community Programming – November 11: No Class

A16–November 12: Nhat Hanh, Thich. 1967. *Vietnam: The Lotus in the Sea of Fire*. London: S.C.M. Press. Part III and Conclusion, pp. 60-106

King, Sallie B. 2000. "They Who Burned Themselves for Peace: Quaker and Buddhist Self-Immolators during the Vietnam War." *Buddhist-Christian Studies* 20 (1): 127–50.

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam — November 14-18

A17—November 19: Harris, Ian Charles. 2007. *Buddhism under Pol Pot*. Documentation Centre of Cambodia. Chapter 6, pp. 217-244.

Study Day — November 21: No Class

A18— November 22: Arhtur Wright, *Buddhism in Chinese History*. Chapter 5 "The Period of Appropriation 900-1900 AD" P86-107; Chapter 6 "The Legacy of Buddhism in China" P108-128

Shanghai, China — November 24-29

A19—November 30: Ch'en, Kenneth. *Buddhism in China: A Historical Survey*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1973. Chapter 18, The Contribution of Buddhism to Chinese Culture P471-486.

Kobe, Japan — December 2-6

A20— December 7: Japan - Voorst, Chapter 8

A21—December 9: Japan - Esposito, Chapter 5 (Shinto)

A22—December 11: Saburō Ienaga. "Japan's Modernization and Buddhism" 1-41.

Study Day — December 12: No Class (International Date Line Crossing (2 days))

A23—December 13: Kim, Hwansoo. 2011. "A Buddhist Christmas: The Buddha's Birthday Festival in Colonial Korea (1928-1945)." *Journal of Korean Religions* 2 (2): 47–82.

Harrison, Elizabeth G. "Strands of Complexity: The Emergence of Mizuko Kuyō in Postwar Japan," *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 67(4).769-796.

A24— December 15: Film: "Fancy Dance"

Honolulu, Hawaii — December 16

Study Day — December 18: No Class

A25 Exam Day — December 19: Review session, Final paper due

Arrive San Diego, California — December 23

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class & Assignment

The field class for this course is on Thursday, November 29 in Shanghai, China.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and are developed and led by the instructor.

Shanghai, China – Thursday, November 29

Title: Religions of East Asia – Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Western Religions

Description: Spend a day in Shanghai, explore the religious part of this modern metropolis. Students will visit past and present religious sites and local museums. In the morning, we will first go to two major Buddhist temples, including Jing'an Temple of esoteric Buddhism and Longhua Temple of Mahayana Buddhism. Students will witness incense burning worshippers and inspect the different architectural styles of these two compounds. Then we will visit the City God Temple ("Chenghuang miao") where hosts gods of both Taoism and local popular religions. While on site, we will discuss the hierarchy of Gods in East religious religions, and the cultural origins of different deities. We will also stroll around the temple to visit the surrounding market and collect religious objects. After lunch at the temple market, we will visit the Shanghai Museum, and learn about the history of different religions in Shanghai in the past. Then we will go to St. Ignatius Cathedral, one of the earliest Catholic church in China, to learn the history of Jesuits and Christianity in East Asia. Afterwards, we will proceed to Ohel Moshe Synagogue and the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum. Students will learn the unique history of Jewish diaspora in the East.

Objectives: 1. Students will have a comprehensive picture of different religions in East Asia in the past and present; 2. To analyze the challenges and opportunities religions faced amid rapid economic growth and urbanization in China; 3. To participate in activities in the religious sites, experience temple markets, and collect materials. Will form a better understanding of the relationship between religious doctrine, rituals, and material culture in East Asia; 4. To scrutinize the phenomenon of religious syncretism which has long been embedded in Chinese society: that different religions share similar symbols, teachings, rituals, or even sites with mutual influence.

Assignment due date: December 7

Independent Field Assignments

You will write one short paper (two pages) of reflection and analysis after your field class. It includes one page “trip report” for summary, and one page “trip highlights and thoughts” for analysis.

More details will be posted on the Canvas course website.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Attendance and participation (10%): You are required to attend every class on time and finish the assigned readings before coming to class. There is an attendance sheet to sign before you leave the class. Missing one class will deduct 1%. The grade will also be affected based on your participation in class discussion.

Four quizzes (20%): You will complete four quizzes (each 5%) taking place at the beginning of class but after presentation. The quizzes are 5 minutes, consisting of 5 simple multiple choice questions (ABCD), which will test your comprehension of the readings up to the day of the quiz.

One in-class presentation (20%): You will conduct one individual presentation on a topic assigned by the instructor. Students can sign up for presentation timeslots available in the beginning of each class. You will have at least one week to prepare for the task. The presentation is approximately 5 to 7 minutes, must use Powerpoint slides, and include one analytical question for class discussion. Grading is based on the Powerpoint (5%), presentation content (5%), presentation delivery (5%), and class discussion following the presentation (5%).

Field Assignments (20%): You will write one short paper of reflection and analysis after your field class. It includes one page “trip report” for summary (10%) and one page “trip highlights and thoughts” for analysis (10%).

Final paper (30%): You will write one long paper (6 pages including bibliography). The paper topic will be given three weeks before the paper due date (Exam Day). The paper will rely on academic sources, especially the course readings. You will conduct a close reading of the texts and conduct further research into the assigned topic. You must present a clear thesis or position on an issue and support it with citations. Grading will be based on your paper’s structure (5%), argumentation (5%), vocabulary (5%), grammar (5%), writing style (5%), and format including reference and citation (5%).

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on

Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%: F
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

None

FILM REQUEST:

Title of Film: Burma VJ: Reporting from a Closed Country
Distributor: Anders Østergaard, 2008

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

None

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

None