Moberly Area Community College
Common Syllabus

PHI251 Religions of the World

Current Term

Instructor:  
Office number:  
Office hours:  
Contact information:  
Classroom number:  
Class days and time:  

Catalog Description: PHI251 *Religions of the World (3-0-3)
This course focuses on the impact that religions have had on history and humanity. The basic beliefs and lifestyles of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity are presented. (FA, SP)

Prerequisite/Corequisite: none

Text(s):
In-seat/Virtual Sections only:
Title: Our Religions
Author: Sharma
Edition: 1993
Publisher: Harper Collins
ISBN: 978-0-06-067700-8

Online Sections only:
Title: Invitation to World Religions
Author: Brodd
Publisher: Oxford

Other Required Materials: None

Purpose of Course: This course examines religions which have made a significant impact on the religious life of humanity. Students’ “global awareness” will be nurtured along with an appreciation for the diversity of the world’s religions.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:
• Demonstrate an understanding of the place and importance of religion in human culture;
• Demonstrate an understanding of the history and major beliefs of the world religions;
• Demonstrate an awareness of and appreciation for the diversity of religions around the world.


Course Content:
1. Overview of religious experience
2. Indigenous religions
3. Hinduism
4. Jainism
5. Buddhism
6. Taoism & Confucianism
7. Shintoism
8. Judaism
9. Christianity
10. Islam

Assessment of Student Learning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Taste Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A= 450-500  B= 400-449  C= 350-399  D= 300-349  F= Below 300

Exams will consist of objective and essay questions.
The Final Exam will be cumulative, closed-book with no aids.
Participation will be based on quantity and quality of in-class participation. Attendance and instances of incisive questioning (IQ), demonstration of critical thinking (CT), supportive participation in Socratic Dialogue (SD), sharing of personal views and life-stories (S) and class-preparedness (CP) will be noted as Excellent (E), Very Good (G) or Poor (P) in the grade sheets.

Grading Scale:
A – 90-100%
B – 80-89%
C – 70-79%
D – 60-69%
F – 0-59%

Expected Study Time Commitments: Students should expect to spend approximately 2 to 4 hours per week studying, reading, and working on assignments for each registered credit hour. For example, 6 to 12 study hours per week may be expected for a 3-credit hour class.

Description of Major Assignment(s)/Project(s):
Field Trip: Students will attend a field trip arranged by the instructor to culturally diverse worship centers. Twenty of the one-hundred class participation points will be awarded for attentive attendance.
Service Learning Project: The student will select a religion to experience which is not their own. The student will attend a “worship” service (worship is not expected, only observation) of the religion selected. The student will write a paper containing the following:

1. Description of the environment including the building’s exterior, interior worship space, primary symbols, ritualistic instruments, etc.
2. Order of service including primary rituals, prayers, hymns, sermons, etc.
3. What did you like or dislike? What did you find agreeable or disagreeable?
4. A signed statement on official letterhead from the religious representative you visited which details your attendance.

Global Taste Dinner Dance: Students will choose to become a group member (groups of 3 or more at instructor’s discretion) of one of the following study groups: African Indigenous, American Indigenous, Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Shintoism, Taoism, Confucianism, Sikhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The group will then work collectively and be graded collectively on the basis of the following: Costumes, Dance and/or activity, Food, Information Display and Information Handout which will be presented at a “Global Taste Dinner Dance” to be held at a time and location following the instructor’s discretion. Students may possibly be reimbursed for some of the expense incurred; the instructor will contact the Academic Dean to see if funds are available.

Schedule of Student Assignments/Activities: Instructors will identify a Student Assignment/Activities schedule. Instructors have the prerogative to construct the schedule by class periods, weeks, or an overview of topics to be covered.

Statement to Connect Course with General Education Outcomes: In compliance with MACC’s General Education outcomes, the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Managing Information: Students will demonstrate the ability to discern when there is a need for information; and to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and share that information for the problem at hand.

College / Instructor Policies:

Academic Dishonesty: MACC board policy is as follows: “Academic dishonesty by students damages institutional credibility and unfairly jeopardizes honest students; therefore, it will not be tolerated in any form.” Forms of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to the following: violations of copyright law, plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, collusion, and other academic misconduct. Incidents of dishonesty regarding assignments, examinations, classroom/laboratory activities, and/or the submission of misleading or false information to the College will be treated seriously. The procedure for handling academic dishonesty is outlined in the Student Handbook (Policy Handbook, G.020). In cases of alleged academic dishonesty, the burden of proof is on the student, not on the instructor.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all class sessions for which they are enrolled. The College reserves the right to drop or withdraw students from courses due to lack of attendance.
Students need to be aware that dropping/being dropped from a course and their last date of attendance in the course may impact their financial aid.

MACC faculty are required to track attendance and report lack of attendance. An instructor must complete the appropriate steps to drop a student within one week following the student’s violation of the attendance policy. Additionally, a student’s attendance rate will be calculated based upon the first day the academic session begins (not the student’s date of enrollment in the course). If a student does not attend a course as defined below, the student will be dropped as “Never Attended.”

**Term Length Drop Calculations**

- **16-week:** Any student who misses two (2) consecutive weeks of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

- **8-week:** Any student who misses one (1) consecutive week of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

- **4-week:** Any student who misses two (2) consecutive days of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

- **Intersession:** Any student who misses one (1) day of class will be dropped from the course by the instructor unless acceptable justification is provided by the student and the student still has the opportunity to be successful in the course.

Acceptable justification may include, but is not limited to, family emergencies, illness or injury, college-approved co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and religious holidays.

**Definition of Course Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Seat Course</th>
<th>Virtual Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physically attending scheduled, face-to-face, class meetings</td>
<td>Being present, via appropriate platform, for scheduled class meetings/activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Hybrid Course | Physically attending scheduled, face-to-face, class meetings and active participation in the online portion of the course which may include any or all of the following:  
| • Completion of quizzes or exams during class meetings and online  
| • Submission of assignments during class meetings and online  
| • Participation in discussions during class meetings and online |

| Online Course | Active participation in an online course includes the following:  
| • Completion of quizzes or exams  
| • Submission of assignments  
| • Participation in threaded discussions |

Simply logging into the Learning Management System (Canvas) and/or accessing the course and course related material does not constitute active participation for the online component of hybrid courses or for online courses. *(Policy Handbook, G.040)*

**Tardiness:**  Per instructor’s policy

**Make-up and late work:**  Per instructor’s policy

**Extra-credit work:**  Per instructor’s policy

**Student Email:**  MACC Mail is the official student email system at MACC. Official college communication is sent via this email system. Students are responsible for checking their MACC Mail account regularly. Students may also receive notifications and reminders from MACC through the online learning platform. However, students should remain aware that the online learning platform messaging system and MACC Mail (student email) system are two separate systems.

**ADA Statement:**  Students who have disabilities that qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act may register for assistance through the Office of Access and ADA Services. Students are invited to contact the Access Office to confidentially discuss disability information, academic accommodations, appropriate documentation and procedures. For more information, please call either the Moberly office at (660) 263-4100 x11240 or the Columbia office at (573) 234-1067 x12120, or visit our web page at [http://www.macc.edu/index.php/services/access-office](http://www.macc.edu/index.php/services/access-office).

**Title IX Statement:**  MACC maintains a strict policy prohibiting sexual misconduct in any form, including sexual harassment, sexual discrimination, and sexual violence. All MACC employees, including faculty members, are considered mandated reporters of sexual misconduct and as such are expected to contact the Title IX Coordinator when they become aware, in conversation or in writing, of an incident of sexual misconduct. For more information on this policy or to learn about support resources, please see [http://www.macc.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy](http://www.macc.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy) (links to an external site) or contact Ms. Cheryl Lybarger, MACC’s Title IX Coordinator, at 660-263-4110, ext. 11369 or CherylLybarger@macc.edu.