

Course Title	LAH 102 Introduction to Religion	Instructor(s)	Mirja Annalena Holst
		E-mail	
Class Style	Lecture	Office Hours	
Track	Global Liberal Arts	Mode of Instruction	Co-Teaching
Credits	2	Allocated Year	1
Active Learning	Category 3 (2, 3, 4) Category 4 (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10)	Compulsory or Elective	Elective
Course Overview	This course provides an introduction to religion. It introduces students to the world's religions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Shintoism. Students will read short excerpts from sacred texts of the world's religions and investigate their histories, beliefs, and practices. Students will thus gain an understanding of religious language and behaviour and the impact of religious belief on the development of the world's cultures.		
Course Objectives	The aim of this course is for students (1) to gain basic knowledge of the histories, beliefs, practices, and stories of the world's religious traditions, (2) to understand religious language and behaviour, (3) to understand the impact of religious belief on the development of the world's cultures, (4) to be able to utilise basic religious vocabulary and terminology, (5) to gain an appreciation for various religious beliefs, and (6) to engage with religious beliefs in an informed and respectful way.		
Prerequisite			
Course Schedule	No	Contents	Homework
	1	Introduction	course overview, syllabus
	2	Hinduism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	3	Hinduism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
	4	Buddhism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	5	Buddhism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
	6	Jainism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	7	Jainism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
	8	Midterm Exam	study for midterm exam
	9	Confucianism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	10	Confucianism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
	11	Daoism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	12	Daoism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
	13	Shintoism: Stories	close reading, interpretation
	14	Shintoism: Histories, Beliefs, and Practices	group work, discussion
		15	Conclusion
		Final Exam	study for final exam
Grading	Participation: 10%, Quizzes: 20%, Midterm Exam: 30%, Final Exam: 40%		
Textbooks	All course materials, including texts, lecture slides, handouts, exercises, and sample solutions, will be available on the course webpage.		
References	Vaughn, L. (2017). <i>Anthology of world religions</i> . Oxford University Press.		
NOTES	This syllabus is subject to change. Any possible changes will be notified to students.		