

**COLLIN COLLEGE**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Information
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**Course Number:** PHIL 1304

**Course Title:** Introduction to World Religions

**Course Description:** A comparative study of world religions, including but not limited to Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

**Course Credit Hours:** 3

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite:** Meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing; or equivalent

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- **State Mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Read, analyze, and critique religious texts.
  2. Demonstrate knowledge of beliefs, practices, values, and terminology of major world religions.
  3. Trace the historical developments and cultural expressions of world religions.
  4. Articulate key conceptual distinctions in world religions.
  5. Communicate understanding of world religions, orally or in writing. (Critical Thinking; Communication Skills)
  6. Communicate ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse religious beliefs. (Social Responsibility)
- **Additional Collin Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  - Demonstrate personal responsibility by doing independent work in PHIL 1304 and properly citing all sources. (Personal Responsibility).

**Withdrawal Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for last day to withdraw.

**Collin College Academic Policies:** See the current *Collin Student Handbook*

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-D140 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

**Course Repeat Policy:** Beginning Fall 2016, Texas residents attempting a course more than twice at Collin College are subject to regular tuition plus an additional \$50 per semester credit hour. Please see the "Repeating Courses" section of the Registration Guide for more information.

**Religious Holy Days:** Please refer to the current *Collin Student Handbook*.

<b>CLASS:</b>	Tuesday - 7:00pm - 9:45pm (Room U107)
<b>PROFESSOR:</b>	Andy Essary
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	972-377-1506 (leave message)
<b>OFFICE / HOURS:</b>	Preston Ridge Campus (U107) Tuesday, 6:30pm – 7:00pm (by appointment)
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	aessary@collin.edu
<b>WEB SITE:</b>	<a href="http://iws.collin.edu/aessary/index.html">http://iws.collin.edu/aessary/index.html</a>

## Course Requirements

### A. Reading of assignments:

Students are expected to complete all readings as assigned.

### B. Class participation:

It is important that all students contribute during class discussions. **Your ideas matter!** The class fails to benefit from your thoughts if you fail to voice them. A diversity of views and your consideration of them will result in increased credibility for your ideas.

### C. Quizzes:

Quizzes will cover assigned readings. You will not get from this class what you should without reading the assignments. I will provide you a take-home quiz each week to answer as you complete your assigned readings.

### D. Term paper:

You will be assigned a term paper during the semester giving you the opportunity to express your ideas. The purpose of this assignment is to help you properly identify religious issues, and begin to engage in the process of clarifying your questions through writing. **Papers will be typed or computer-printed; 12 or 10 c.p.i.; double-spaced; ½ inch margin all-around; cover page with your name; and NO binder of any kind – single staple in upper left corner suffices.** Paper submissions failing to meet the above criteria will receive zero points.

### E. Final exam:

The final exam will verify your grasp of theories and ideas you've read and discussed in class.

### F. Cheating:

Students suspected of cheating and/or plagiarism on any assignment in this class will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. Students found responsible for scholastic dishonesty offenses will receive an authorized disciplinary penalty from the Dean of Students Office. The student may also receive an academic penalty in the course where the scholastic dishonesty occurred. The course instructor will determine the appropriate academic penalty.

## STUDENT EVALUATION

A. Class participation (100); attendance (100); and tardiness (100)	=	300
B. Periodic quizzes	=	400
C. Term Paper	=	200
D. Final exam	=	100
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		1000

A = 900 - 1000

B = 800 - 899

C = 700 - 799

D = 600 - 699

F = 599 & below

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Each student is expected to attend **ALL** classes. Without exception, each absence will reduce a student's final point tally by **15 points if excused** and **20 points if unexcused**. Absences are excused at the teacher's discretion and notice must be provided prior to class via e-mail or by calling the above telephone number. **15 points will be deducted for each tardiness.**

## CLASSROOM RULES

A. **All** electronic devices must be turned off. Unless I grant permission, none may be used.

B. The only conversations allowed in class will involve me as a participant.

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Smith, H., The World's Religions. HarperOne, 1991. ISBN 978-0-06-166018-4

Ehrman, B., Lost Christianities. Oxford University Press, 2003. ISBN 0-19-518249-9

**COURSE CALENDAR**

<b>Week 1</b>	Tuesday	Aug. 29	<u>Introduction</u>	
<b>Week 2</b>	Tuesday	Sept. 5	<u>The World's Religions</u> Point of Departure – Pages 1-11 Hinduism – Pages 12-77	
<b>Week 3</b>	Tuesday	Sept. 12	<u>The World's Religions</u> Buddhism – Pages 82-149	
<b>Week 4</b>	Tuesday	Sept. 19	<u>The World's Religions</u> Confucianism – Pages 154-193	
<b>Week 5</b>	Tuesday	Sept. 26	<u>The World's Religions</u> Taoism – Pages 196-218	
<b>Week 6</b>	Tuesday	Oct. 3	<u>The World's Religions</u> Islam – Pages 221-268	
<b>Week 7</b>	Tuesday	Oct. 10	<u>The World's Religions</u> Judaism – Pages 271-315	
<b>Week 8</b>	Tuesday	Oct. 17	<u>The World's Religions</u> Christianity – Pages 317-339	
*****		<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b><u>LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS</u></b>	*****
<b>Week 9</b>	Tuesday	Oct. 24	<u>The World's Religions</u> Christianity – Pages 339-362	
<b>Week 10</b>	Tuesday	Oct. 31	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 1-46	
<b>Week 11</b>	Tuesday	Nov. 7	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 47-89	
<b>Week 12</b>	Tuesday	Nov. 14	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 91-134 <b>TERM PAPER DUE</b>	
<b>Week 13</b>	Tuesday	Nov. 21	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 135-180	
<b>Week 14</b>	Tuesday	Nov. 28	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 181-227	
<b>Week 15</b>	Tuesday	Dec. 5	<u>Lost Christianities</u> Pages 229-257	
<b>Week 16</b>	Tuesday	Dec. 12	<b><u>FINAL EXAM – 7:00pm – 9:00pm</u></b>	

