

Virginia Western Community College

REL 230

Religions of the World

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Introduces the religions of the world with attention to origin, history, and doctrine.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

Textbook: (optional)

Partridge; Dowley, *A Short Introduction to World Religions*, 3rd Edition. ISBN # 978-1-506-44595-3.

Fortress Press

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Be conversant with definitions of “ religion” as it applies in a multi-cultural world
- Name and identify major world religious traditions
- Define and understand theism as it applies to major world religions
- Understand basic theoretical issues of major world religions, such as doctrines, stories, myths, teachings
- Have a basic understanding of practical applications of major world religions, such as worship practices, rituals, holidays
- Understand the sociological effect of major world religions as it applies to those who adhere to the various traditions, including communities of followers and religious specialists
- Identify and understand current issues within major world religions

Topical Description

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Hinduism |
| 2 | Buddhism |
| 3 | Sikh and Jain |
| 4 | Confucianism and Daoism |
| 5 | Korean and Japanese Religions |
| 6 | Judaism |
| 7 | Christianity |
| 8 | Islam |

Notes to Instructors

None

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)

[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)