

# BUTTE COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

**PHIL 18 - Eastern Religions**

**3 Unit(s)**

**Prerequisite(s):** NONE

**Recommended Prep:** Reading Level V; English Level IV

**Transfer Status:** CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course is an introduction to religious traditions of the East, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism, with an emphasis on philosophical perspectives expressed in historical and cultural development.

### II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Recognize and distinguish between various world views of the major Eastern religions.
- B. Analyze and evaluate complex elements of religious phenomena.
- C. Compare, appraise and evaluate the interrelationships between particular cultures and religious expressions.
- D. Assess and value diversity of Eastern religions.
- E. Analyze and explain how ideas and practice from various Eastern religions address important questions in life, and assess their applicability to the human condition.

### III. COURSE CONTENT

#### **A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule**

		Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>			<u>Hours</u>
1. Nature and Definition of Religion and Philosophy			6.00
2. Hinduism			12.00
A. Vedas, Castes, Ritual, Sacrifice			
B. Brahman, Karma, Rebirth			
C. Dharma, Yoga, Moksha			
3. Buddhism			12.00
A. The Life of the Buddha			
B. Four Noble truth, Noble Eightfold Path			
C. Enlightenment, Nirvana, Bodhisattva			
4. Chinese worldview			3.00
5. Confucianism			6.00
A. Harmony and moral cultivation			
B. Ren and Jun Zi			
C. Zhong and Shu			
6. Daoism			6.00
A. Lao Zi and Dao De Jing			
B. Zhuang Zi			
C. Wu Wei, Harmony with Nature			

7. Jainism	2.00
A. Ahimsa, Mahavira	
B. Asceticism	
8. Shinto	2.00
A. Kami, Nature	
B. Purity, Bushido Code	
9. Sikhism	2.00
A. Nanak, Adi Granth, Gurus	
Total Hours	51.00

#### IV. **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

- A. Lecture
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Discussion
- D. Reading Assignments
- E. Multimedia Presentations

#### V. **METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Quizzes
- C. Portfolios
- D. Papers
- E. Oral Presentation
- F. Homework
- G. Class participation
- H. Students will write at least 1,500 words. This requirement will be met either by essay examinations, take-home tests, short papers, or book reports. (Note: all written work will be evaluated on both its form and content.)

#### VI. **EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Reading Assignments
- B. Writing Assignments
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments

#### VII. **RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

Textbooks:

- A. Bresnan, P.. Awakening: An Introduction to the History of Eastern Thought. 4 Edition. Prentice-Hall, 2009.
- B. Fisher, M. P.. Living Religions. 7 Edition. Prentice-Hall, 2007.
- C. Molloy, M.. Experiencing the World's Religions: Tradition, Challenge, and Change. 4 Edition. McGraw-Hill, 2007.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Readers for Eastern religions