



SYLLABUS   
Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Interdisciplinary Studies Department

RELS 1102 - Understanding Religious Studies Sections W1 Spring 2025

# Course Information

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Class meeting time: The class is a*synchronous*

Modality and Location: *Online and* a*synchronous*  
Syllabus is posted in D2L.

# Instructor Information

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Name: Warner A. Belanger III

Email: wbelange@kennesaw.edu  
Office Location: Online

Office phone: N/A

Office Hours: By appointment

**Preferred method of communication is Email:**

I will check my e-mail at least once per day Monday through Friday between the hours of 9am and 5pm. When sending an e-mail, plan accordingly and leave enough time (at least 24 hours) to receive a response. Email is my preferred means of contact.

**Technical Skills:** Asynchronous courses require participants to have average computer literacy. You should be proficient with the basic functions of standard software packages (e.g., MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, and Adobe Reader) and accessing/using a web cam. These programs will need to be accessible to you through home use or other computer access (as a reminder, you can access the Office Suite through your KSU email). A working knowledge of the D2L learning management system is required for participation in our course.

# Course Description

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**Catalog Description:** This course is an interdisciplinary field that draws from many different academic and disciplinary approaches to understand, appreciate, compare, contrast and learn from the world’s religions, their practices and beliefs, their people and their power. This course surveys and explores the dichotomies and many issues surrounding and arising from religion in the world in order to enable students to engage in conversations critically, informatively, and dispassionately on the subject of world religion.

# Core IMPACTS

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**RELS 1102 is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Institution area.**

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students’ broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

* How does my institution help me to navigate the world?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

* Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically and solve problems.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

* Critical Thinking
* Teamwork
* Time Management

# Course Materials

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Required Texts: eTextbook Living Religions by Mary Pat Fisher and Robin Rinehart, Tenth Edition.

You can listen to the audio of the text. There are also Key Term Flashcards at the end of each chapter to help you study.

Recommended Texts: None

Technology requirements: Access to the internet

# Learning Outcomes

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By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to think critically and solve problems related to religious topics.
2. Exhibit familiarity with the tenets and practices of the major world religions.
3. Recognize changing cultural and historical contexts of these diverse religious traditions.
4. Analyze different elements of religion, including doctrine, ritual, text, sacred space, art/music, etc.
5. Explore how these traditions are relevant to you and your peers’ lives.
6. Practice open, ethically sensitive, and informed conversations about (sometimes controversial and often very personal) religious beliefs and topics.
7. Apply interdisciplinary methods to synthesize and/or assess the audience, intent, value, and context of informational sources and the multiple perspectives they provide.

# Course Requirements and Assignments

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**Ground Rules for Course Discussion**



It is very important to me that our class be a safe and welcoming place for everyone. Please adhere to the following policies when posting discussions and responses or when communicating with your classmates in any way, shape, or form:

* Be respectful of your instructor and classmates and remain open to diverse perspectives. We are each unique and we are all learning.
* Be respectful of the experiences of others. Refrain from denying or distorting others’ experiences.
* Be respectful in your use of language. Refrain from using profanity.
* Be sure to explain any slang terms or cultural references that we may not all be familiar with.
* When responding to or asking questions, adding information, and/or adding your experiences, point out misunderstandings in a constructive way. Do not be rude and do not assume you know what the other person is thinking.
* Include references to the content (e.g. readings and videos) and cite your sources.
* Include references to relevant outside material that you either locate on your own or already have knowledge of and cite your sources.
* Include personal stories and/or experiences when you are willing and when they are relevant to the discussion.
* I recommend you write your original posts and responses in Word, then Spell Check them there, before copying and pasting into D2L. This will also help prevent posts from disappearing and you having to rewrite them.
* And once more: please cite your sources! If an idea you are using came from someone else, you must cite them whether or not you are quoting them directly.

**Day One Access**

* RELS 1102 Section 04, 05, 06 is part of a textbook program called Day One Access. Prior to classes starting, you should have received an e-mail from KSU University Stores with pricing and your personalized link to opt-out (please check your junk folder if not in your inbox). You will also receive one on the first day of class and then a reminder email the day prior to the opt-out deadline.
* You will access the ebook through D2L on the content tab.
* The purpose of Day One Access is to make sure that you have access to the digital course materials on the first day of class at a highly competitive rate. Everyone enrolled in the course will automatically have access to the digital course materials through drop/add. Your Owl Express account has already been charged for these materials, and you will have through drop/add to opt out and receive a refund. Should you opt out, the refund will be processed, but will lose access to the materials.  Please check your email for the link to opt out if you choose to do so. The opt out deadline is the last day of add/drop at 11:59pm.
* Please note, should you opt out you will need to purchase your required materials directly from the publisher or other sources.
* If you need any help, please contact [DayOne@kennesaw.edu](mailto:DayOne@kennesaw.edu)

**There are three different kinds of assignments.**

1. **D2L Question and Answer Posts (D2L Q & A Posts)**
2. **15 Module Quizzes over course material**
3. **Religion in the News Posts (RITNs) and Responses to Peers’ Religions in the New Posts**

1. **D2L Question and Answer Posts (D2L Q & A Posts)**
   1. **D2L Question Posts**

* You can post a question in all 15 weekly modules about the reading or other course materials such as documentaries or additional readings.
* Your post cannot duplicate the topic of an earlier post in your section.
* Each of the 15 weekly posts are worth up to 5 points each.
* **The D2L Question Posts are due by 11:59 pm on Tuesday.**
* Each Question Post should be at least 15-20 words long.
* I will not accept late D2L Questions Posts after the first week.
* Please check the schedule for each week to see when the due date is in the Content area on D2L.
* Write the post as a discussion question. Ask a question which cannot be answered by your classmates in the same way by everyone who responds to it.
* For example, if you ask, “What are the three marks of existence in Buddhism?”, or “What are the books of the Old Testament?”, everyone can answer in the same exact way. I will not give you points for that. That’s quiz prep, not a discussion question.
* Good questions for discussion would be “Why does Buddhism emphasize the three marks of existence?” or “Why is the doctrine of no-self so important in Buddhism?” or “Why do Catholics use a different Bible than Protestants?” “What religions influenced Sikhism?”
* These questions can be about anything except vocabulary because each chapter of *Living Religions* has a Key Terms section.

* I generally suggest that you can also ask questions about things that you find confusing and want clarified, but you can ask students questions about their opinions on the readings and other course material like videos and films.
  1. **D2L Answer Posts**
* Please check the schedule for each week to see when the due date is.
* You must answer two other students’ questions in the same twelve weekly modules where you have posted a Question Post. You can, of course, answer Question Posts in all fifteen modules.
* Two Answer Posts are worth up to 5 points together. (Each Answer Post is therefore only worth 2.5 points.)
* Each Answer Post should be at least 15 words long and should demonstrate your knowledge of the material covered in that week.
* The Answer posts are due each Thursday by 11:59 PM.
* D2L Answer Posts will not be accepted late after the first week.
* Please check the schedule for each week to see when the due date is.

1. **15 Module Quizzes over course material**

* You can take all 15 Module Quizzes over readings and films.
* Each module quiz is worth up to 20 points.
* Study strategies:
* Each chapter in *Living Religions* begins with a list of learning objectives.
  + - 1. At the end of each chapter, after the Suggested Reading list, it explains how to answer the learning objectives at the beginning of the chapter.
      2. I will also provide the class with a study guide for each module quiz.
      3. Documentaries and podcasts will usually reinforce what you have learned in the chapters in *Living Religions*.

1. **Religion in the News Posts (RITNs) and Responses to Peers’ Religions in the New Posts**

* There are three parts to Religion in the News Posts (RITNs).
  + **Part 1 – Writing an RITN** 
    - A Religion in the News Post is a summary of a news article about the religions we are studying.
    - I will provide you with guidelines on how to write them and give you some examples of good RITNs.
    - You can write 3 RITNs during the semester. You can earn up to 100 points for each of your RITNs.
    - You can start writing Religions in the News (RITN) Posts the second week of class. Each post must be based on a news item about one of the religion(s) in each weekly module you choose.
    - To help you find new articles, I have put together a word document called ***Sources to find articles for your RITNs5***. Please use it as a starting point.
    - You will need to email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday of the week you plan on writing an RITN.
    - Scholarly articles are NOT acceptable; nor the websites of specific religions, personal blogs, online encyclopedias, home-schooling sites, or sites for teachers at any level, book reviews, commercial sites, web sites of “think tanks,” or any other source that is not a credible international journalistic one.
    - **Religion in the News Posts are due on Wednesday posts are due by 11:59 pm.**
  + **Part 2 – Writing two responses to your classmates RITNs.** 
    - You can earn up to 10 points for each response.
    - During the weeks you write an RITN, you must write two responses to your classmates’ RITN posts because you will be familiar with the religion or religions covered that week.
    - You can write two responses to your classmates RITNs every week even if you haven’t written an RITN during that week.
    - Your responses should be 20-30 words long
  + **Part 3 -** **Sample Religion in the News Posts** 
    - In the Religion in the News Posts documents, there is a word document called SAMPLE RELIGION IN THE NEWS POSTS SPRING 2025. Download it and use the two RITNs as a model to write your RITNs.
    - In this document, I break down two different RITNs so that you can get an idea of how to do the individual steps which make up this assignment in the first week.
    - These are models for you to write your RITNs.
  + **Part 4 – Schedule for writing RITNs**
    - I have set deadlines so that students won’t be in the position of having to do all three RITNs the last three weeks of class.
    - You must write two RITNs before Week 8.
    - The last week you can write an RITN is Week 15.
    - You cannot make-up an RITN after Week 15 without a valid excuse.
    - You are welcome to do all three early in the semester if you want to get them out of the way.
* If you have any questions, please email me.

1. **Responding to your classmates’ RITNs**

* You can write two responses to peers’ RITN posts each week.
* Each response is worth up to 10 points.
* During the weeks you write an RITN, you must write two responses to your classmates’ RITN posts because you will be familiar with the religion or religions covered that week.
* Each response should demonstrate clearly that you have read your peer’s entire post.
* You will respond meaningfully and seriously to each peer in at least one substantial paragraph of 20-30 words.
* Your response must draw connections between your peer’s post and other posts, and/or our required readings and viewing of that week.
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts each week. They are due by 9:00 am on Friday.

1. **Responding to the responses that you get when you post an RITN.**

* This is the trickiest part of this assignment.
* If your classmates write responses to your RITN post, then you must reply to their responses. Make sure that you subscribe to your RITN posts so that you get notifications if classmates respond to them.
* You can earn up to 30 points writing replies to the responses you get.
* Each response should be at least 20 words long. You need to only respond in the Discussion of your post. I can grade it there.
* What happens if no one writes a response to your RITN?
* Unfortunately, this happens sometimes. If no one has written a response to your RITN, then email me and I will write a response to you. You’ll then need to respond to it.

**Assignments:**

This course has fifteen weekly modules.

I strongly suggest that you pick out twelve of the fifteen modules to focus on for your assignments because all the weekly assignments overlap each other and will give you the greatest benefit.

You should try and earn points during each module.

# Evaluation and Grading Policies

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* You earn points in this class by completing assignments.
* The Grading Scale is a points grading scale and not a percentage scale.

The points grading scale for final grades with built-in rounding up is as follows:

A = 700

B = 600

C = 500

D = 400

F = less than 400

* As you do your assignments throughout the term, your personal term total will increase.
* You can view your total of points at any time by simply opening your gradebook on D2L and looking at your Current Grade. The number on the far left is the number of points that you have earned. Since there are many more possible points to earn, the percentage grade you see in D2L’s gradebook will be inaccurate. Pay attention only to the number of points earned, not the percentage. The sample grade below is an A, because the student has earned more than 700 points. The percentage of 37.58 is wrong.



# Course Policies

# Expectations, Policies, and Services

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# Attendance Policy

It’s difficult to formulate an Attendance Policy for an asynchronous class as the course is designed for students and faculty to work on the class whenever they want to. If you have circumstances that make it difficult for you to complete coursework, let me know.

If you have problems outside of school that prevent you from completing your assignments, please let me know as soon as possible so we can work together to get you through the course.

If you are feeling ill, please stay home and contact your health professional. In addition, please email your instructor (wbelange@kennesaw.edu) to say you are missing class due to illness as soon as possible

# Email Policy

I do have an email policy. I have two tools at my disposal when contacting students:

Email and course announcements. It is important that you read my emails and course announcements because sometimes I must make changes to the class.

# Late Policy

All assignment deadlines can be found on the weekly assignment overviews in the content modules on D2L, and on the course schedule section of this syllabus. Assignments are due on the dates that they appear on the syllabus and in the modules. I will deduct points for each day that the work is late.

# AI Policy

**AI Use Is Prohibited**:

You are expected to generate your own work in this class. When you submit any kind of work, you are asserting that you have created it completely on your own unless you indicate otherwise using quotation marks and proper citation for the source(s) you used to help you. Submitting content that has been generated by someone other than you, or that was created or assisted by an AI generative tool is cheating and constitutes a violation of the KSU Code of Academic Integrity.

# Academic Integrity

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5c addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, and misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, which includes either an “informal” resolution by the faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See KSU [Codes of Conduct](https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct) for more information.

# Care Services

Pursuing a college degree is exciting but can also be stressful. There are several support services available at KSU; knowing about and using available resources can make your academic experience more productive and enjoyable. [CARE](https://care.kennesaw.edu/) (offers support to students who have experienced homelessness, food insecurity, or the foster care system) and [Counseling & Psychological Services](https://counseling.kennesaw.edu/) (offers confidential, no-cost counseling services to students) are two of the many support services available to KSU students. For additional KSU student resources, including technology, academic, and student support and wellness resources, click [here](https://curriculum.kennesaw.edu/resources/ksu_student_resources_for_course_syllabus.php).

# Institutional Policies

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[Federal, BOR, & KSU Required Syllabus Policies](https://www.kennesaw.edu/curriculum-instruction-assessment/academic-program-planning-development/resources/required-syllabus-information.php)

# Course Delivery

KSU may shift the method of course delivery at any time during the semester in compliance with University System of Georgia health and safety guidelines. In this case, alternate teaching modalities that may be adopted include hyflex, hybrid, synchronous online, or asynchronous online instruction.

# KSU Academic Integrity Statement

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5c of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Note to Faculty: The KSU faculty handbook requires the Academic Integrity Policy in the course syllabus.

# KSU Disruption of Campus Life Policy

All students are responsible for knowing the information, policies and procedures outlined in the Kennesaw State University Codes of Conduct. Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI) includes: the general Student Code of Conduct, the Residential Code of Conduct, and the Code of Academic Integrity.

# KSU Web Accessibility Policy Statement

Federal law Section 508 Subsection 1194.22 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia (USG) Web Accessibility Guidelines require that all web content meet the federal government’s accessibility guidelines. As such, KSU complies with USG guidelines.

University accessibility assistance is provided by several offices as noted below. Staff in these offices work to accommodate requests for access or assistance with access as soon as possible in order to either accommodate the request or identify an effective alternative for the requester. Please click on the KSU Student Resources link below for more information.

# KSU Student Resources

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This link contains information on help and resources available to students: [KSU Student Syllabus Resources](https://cia.kennesaw.edu/instructional-resources/syllabus-resources.php)

# At this link you will find Technology Resources if you need Technical Help

* Student Support and Wellness Resources
* Academic Resources
* Grade Appeals and Student Complaints

# Course Schedule

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**Week 1 Jan 6-12- Introductions & Religious Responses**

**Read**

* Your textbook is Living Religions, 10e. You can get access to it as a Day One EBook in the content area on the left.
* Read Living Religions, Chapter One, *Religious Responses*(You don’t need to read Methodologies for Studying Religions by Lee W. Bailey)
* Download the PowerPoint – W1 Religious Responses. Please read the slide deck because it is a good summary of the first chapter.

**Watch & Listen**

* Sociology of Religion (32:07)

**Participate**

* Since it is the first week and students are adding and dropping, our schedule will be a little different than the rest of the weeks.
* If you have any questions, please email me at [wbelange@kennesaw.edu](mailto:wbelange@kennesaw.edu) or post in the conversation *Ask any general questions about the syllabus or course assignments here* below.

**M Jan 6**

* Quiz 1 and the Study Guide for Quiz 1 are available.
* 10 points extra credit. Introduce yourself on the discussion board. Tell us why you are taking the class and anything else you wish to share by Aug 18th at 11:59 pm.

**T Jan 7**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.

**TH Jan 9**

* Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm In the discussion below "Week 1 August 12th-18th Religious Responses Question & Answer Posts."

**Su Jan 11**

* Take Week 1 Quiz by 11:59 pm

**Week 2 Jan 13-19th Indigenous Sacred Ways**

**REMINDER: You must write two RITNs before Week 8.**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter 2, *Indigenous Sacred Ways*
* Download the PowerPoint W2 – Indigenous Sacred Ways 2024 and go through the slides.

**Watch & Listen**

* Intro to Indigenous Religions (12:55)
* Mni Wiconi: The Stand at Standing Rock (8:26) (see below)
* Watch Native American Religions (27:31) (see below)

**Participate**

**M Jan 13 -** Week 2 Quiz and Study Guide are available.

Take Week 2 Quiz by Sunday 11:59 pm.

**T Jan 14**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.

**W Jan 15**

* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Even if you have not written a RITN this week, you can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH Jan 16**

* Answer two classmates' questions D2L Question & Answer Posts due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to your classmates' Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su Jan 19**

* Take Week 2 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to the responses you classmates wrote on your post by 11:59 pm.

**Week 3 Jan 20-26- Hinduism**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Three, *Hinduism*
* W3 Hinduism PowerPoint summarizes the chapter.

**Watch & Listen**

* Hinduism (57:30)

**Participate**

**Monday – MLK Jr. Holiday!**

**T Jan 21**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 3 Quiz & Quiz Study are available. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**W Jan 22**

* Religion in the News post due by 11:59 pm.

**TH Jan 23**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by Sunday 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su Jan 26**

* Take Week 2 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 4 Jan 27- Feb 2 Jainism & Buddhism Part I**

**REMINDER: You must write two RITNs before Week 8.**  
**Read**  
•    Living Religions, Chapter Three, Jainism   
•    Living Religions, Chapter Four, Buddhism Read up to 5.4 Mahayana in East Asia

**Watch & Listen**  
•    Jainism: Ascetics and Warriors (50:24)  
•    Who was the Buddha? (16:43)

**Participate**

**M Jan 27**

**M Week 4 Quiz and Study Guide are available.**

**T Jan 28**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm

**W Jan 29**

* Professor Belanger’s two PowerPoint lectures for this week are available.
* W3 Buddhist Lecture 1 & W3 Jainism.
* Download and use them as a summary of the chapters.
* Religion in the News post due by 11:59 pm

**TH Jan 30**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by Sunday 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su Feb 2**

* Take Week 4 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 5 Feb 3- 9 Buddhism II & III**

**REMINDER: You must write two RITNs before Week 8.**

**Read**  
•    Living Religions, Chapter Four, Buddhism read from 5.4 Mahayana in East Asia to end of chapter

**Watch & Listen**  
•    Buddhism (57:15)

**Participate**

**M** Week 5 Quiz and Study Guide are available. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

You can download the W4 Buddhism Lecture 2 PowerPoint. It is a good summary of the chapter.

**T Feb 4**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.

**W Feb 5**

* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 5 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday

**TH Feb 6**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su Feb 9**

* Take Week 5 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.
* If you write an RITN post next week, you must choose either Daoism or Confucianism.

**Week 6 Feb 10-16 Daoism and Confucianism**

***REMINDER: YOU MUST WRITE TWO RITNS BY WEEK* *8.***

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Six, *Daoism and Confucianism*

**Watch & Listen**

* Confucius: Genius of the Ancient World (58:56)
* Shinto & Daoism (54:45)
* Links are below

**Participate**

**T Feb 11**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm
* Quiz 6 and Study Guide are available. Take the quiz by 11:59 pm on Saturday.

**W Feb 12**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint W6 Daoism & Confucianism is a good summary of this week’s chapter.
* Religion in the News post due by 11:59 pm.
* If you write an RITN post this week, you must choose either Daoism or Confucianism.

**TH Feb 13**

* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* Answer two classmates' questions D2L Question & Answer Posts due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* Take the quiz by 11:59 pm on Saturday
* Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm

**Su Feb 16**

* Take Week 5 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on the Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.
* If you write an RITN Post next week, you must choose either Shinto or Zoroastrianism.

**Week 7 February 17-23 *Shinto and Zoroastrianism***

**REMINDER: You must write two RITNs before Week 8.**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Seven, *Shinto* & Chapter 7a *Zoroastrianism*
* REMINDER: This week if you write an RITN Post you must choose either Shinto or Zoroastrianism.

**Watch & Listen**

* Watch What is Shinto? 11:27
* Watch Buddhism and Shinto Explained: A Complicated History 10:23
* On YouTube A Brief Overview of Zoroastrianism 9:00
* Watch Iran: Kashan, the Zoroastrian Fire Temple of Yazd 25:51

**Participate**

**T February 18**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 7 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm.
* Do not ask a question about comparing Shinto to Zoroastrianism. They are completely unrelated we want to keep them separate. You can compare Shinto to Daoism or Confucianism.

**W February 19**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 7 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH February 20**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su February 23**

* Take Week 7 Quiz by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 8 Feb 24-March 2 *Judaism***

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Eight, *Judaism*

**Watch & Listen**

* Judaism  (58:06)
* Jewish Synagogues (24:38)

**Participate**

**T February 25**

Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.

* Week 8 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm

**W February 26**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 8 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH February 27**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su March 2**

* Take Week 8 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 9 March 3 -March 9 Christianity Part I**

**Read**

Living Religions, Chapter Nine, Christianity read up to 9.5: Reform Efforts

**Watch & Listen**

* Jesus' Female Disciples: The New Evidence (48:03)

**Participate**

**T March 4**

* **Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty, 11:45 p.m.**
* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 9 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm

**W March 5**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 9 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH March 6**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su March 9**

* Take Week 9 Quiz by 11:59 pm on Sunday.If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all of the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**SPRING BREAK! March 10-16**

**Week 10 March 17-23 Christianity Part II**

**Read**

Living Religions, Chapter Nine, *Christianity* Read from 9.5: Reform Efforts to the end of the Chapter

**Watch & Listen**

* Lourdes (7:34)
* Future of Christianity: Christianity—A History (48:24)

**Participate**

**T March 18**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 10 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm.

**W March 19**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 10 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday

**TH March 20**

* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts. Your responses are due by 9:00 am on Saturday March 25.
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 9:00 am on Saturday March 25..

**Su March 23**

* Take by Quiz 10 by 11:59 pm on Sunday
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to the responses you classmates wrote on your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 11 March 24-30 Islam 1**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Ten, *Islam* read up to 10.7: Shari’ah: Islamic Law and Ethics

**Watch & Listen**

* Islam (55:44)
* Link is below

**Participate**

**T March 25**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm.

**W March 26**

* Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm.
* Professor Belanger’s two PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz.
* Religion in the News post due by 11:59 pm.

**TH March 27**

* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 10 will be available by 1 pm..

**Su March 30**

* Take Week 11 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all of the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 12 March 31-April 6 Islam II**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Ten, *Islam* read from 10.7: Shari’ah: Islamic Law and Ethics to the end of the chapter

**Watch & Listen**

* Inside Mecca (56:21)
* Link is below

**Participate**

**T April 1**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 12 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm.

**W April 2**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz.
* Religion in the News post due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 12 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday

**TH April 3**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.

**Su April 6**

* Take Week 12 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 13 April 7-13 Sikhism**

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter Ten, *Sikhism*

**Watch & Listen**

* What is Sikhism? 11:29
* Sikhism: The Guru's Wisdom-Let's Look at World Religions

 (19:41)

* Dastaar: Defending Sikh Identity (11:52)
* Inside a Sikh Gurdwara (06:58)

**Participate**

**T April 8**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 13 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm

**W April 9**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 13 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH April 10**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm

**Su April 13**

* Take Week 13 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all of the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 14 April 14-20 *New Religious Movements***

**Read**

* Living Religions, Chapter 12, *New Religious Movements* 456-493

**Watch & Listen**

* The Druids: What Do We Really Know? (10:57)
* New Religious Movements: Religion in Contemporary Society (06:26)
* The Baha'i Faith (27:25)

**Participate**

**T April 15**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 13 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm

**W April 16**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 13 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday

**TH April 17**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm

**Su April 20**

* Take Week 14 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all of the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**Week 15 April 21-27 Religion in the Twenty-First Century**

* **Read**  
  •    Living Religions, Chapter 13, Religion in the Twenty-First Century 494-519  
    
  **Watch & Listen**  
  •    21st Century Cults
* America’s nonreligious have become a growing phenomenon

**Participate**

**T April 22**

* Ask one question about the course materials (readings, podcasts, films) for your classmates to answer due by 11:59 pm in D2L Question & Answer Posts.
* Week 14 Study Guide will be available by 3 pm

**W April 23**

* Professor Belanger’s PowerPoint lectures for this week will be available by 3 pm. Watch them in preparation for the quiz
* Religion in the News posts due by 11:59 pm.
* Quiz 14 will be available by 1 pm. Take by 11:59 pm on Sunday.

**TH April 24**

* D2L Question & Answer Posts Answer two classmates' questions due by 11:59 pm
* You can write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm
* If you wrote a RITN this week, you must write two responses to peers’ Religion in the News posts, due by 11:59 pm

**Su April 27**

* Take Week 15 Quiz by 11:59 pm.
* If you wrote a RITN post this week, respond to all of the responses to your post by 11:59 pm.
* If you plan on writing an RITN during next week, email me a link to your news source before 11:59 pm on Sunday so I can make sure your article is appropriate.

**M April 28th Last Day of Regular Classes**

**There is no final exam in this class.**

**Th May 9th FINAL GRADES DUE BY NOON**