



UNSW Course Outline

GENL1021 World Religions - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : GENL1021

Year : 2024

Term : Summer

Teaching Period : U1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Law, Society and Criminology

Delivery Mode : Online

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course offers students a general introduction to six of the world's major religions with a special focus on the way in which their specific laws and customs impact upon the behaviour of their adherents. The religions studied are Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Each week a specific practical theme will be traced across the six religions. The

themes include sacred images; scriptural texts; ethics; the three life-cycle rituals of birth, death and marriage; food and clothing customs; the calendar; religious architecture and popular places of pilgrimage.

An objective, comparative approach will be taken and little prior knowledge of any religious tradition is required. A major focus of the course is the social relevance of religion in today's society. Its aim is to deepen the student's appreciation of the rich mosaic, which characterises the practical and legal dimensions of the world's great religions.

Course Aims

An objective, comparative approach will be taken and little prior knowledge of any religious tradition is required. The overall aim is to deepen the student's appreciation of the rich mosaic, which characterises the practical and legal dimensions of the world's great religions. More specifically the course aims at facilitating the student's ability to:

- Understand the historical origins and early development of each religion
- Describe the various sources of their laws and customs
- Outline the salient practical-legal features of each religion
- Identify points of similarity and difference between the religions
- Appreciate the inherent value and distinctive identity of each religious tradition

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : UNSW requires that undergraduate students undertake a structured program in General Education as an integral part of studies for their degree. The University believes that a general education complements the more specialised learning undertaken in a student's chosen field of study and contributes to the flexibility which graduates are increasingly required to demonstrate. Employers repeatedly point to the complex nature of the modern work environment and advise that they highly value graduates with the skills provided by a broad general education, in addition to the specialised knowledge provided in more narrowly defined degree programs.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : UNSW requires that undergraduate students undertake a structured program in General Education as an integral part of studies for their degree. The University believes that a general education complements the more specialised learning undertaken in a student's chosen field of study and contributes to the flexibility which graduates are increasingly required to demonstrate. Employers repeatedly point to the complex nature of the modern work environment and advise that they highly value graduates with the skills provided by a broad general education, in addition to the specialised knowledge provided in more narrowly defined degree programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quizzes• Online Tutorial Forum Discussions• Take Home Test

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Quizzes Assessment Format: Individual	20%	
Online Tutorial Forum Discussions Assessment Format: Individual	40%	
Take Home Test Assessment Format: Individual	40%	

Assessment Details

Quizzes

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

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Online Tutorial Forum Discussions

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, online and peer feedback and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

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Take Home Test

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, online and peer feedback and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

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broad general education, in addition to the specialised knowledge provided in more narrowly defined degree programs.

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

The course consists of 12 topics over 4 weeks. The first topic commences on Wed Jan 3 and the final topic is on Jan 29. See moodle for details.

Please see information about attendance requirements in **Law & Justice Assessment Procedure and Student Information** located in the Other Useful Information tab in the Academic Information field.

Please be advised there will be no classes on public holidays. If your class falls on a public holiday, alternative arrangements will be made by the course convenor to make up the missed class.

General Schedule Information

Topics

Introduction (Jan 3); Image (Jan 5); Book (Jan 8); Ethics (Jan 10); Birth (Jan 12); Death (Jan 15)

Marriage (Jan 17); Food (Jan 19); Clothing (Jan 22); Year (Jan 24); Building (Jan 26); Journey (Jan 29)

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

This course has a compulsory textbook: Paul Gwynne *World Religions in Practice* (2nd edition) Wiley UK.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is an important part of the ongoing development of this course. Please ensure that you complete the feedback survey when instructed.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Head lecturer	Paul Gwynne					Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam Information](#).

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up,

then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.