

RELIGION 100: INTRODUCTION TO RELIGION: FALL, 1998

INSTRUCTOR: Hoyt Oliver. Office: Humanities 204

TEXTS: Livingston, Anatomy of the Sacred (AS); Frankiel, Christianity (CH); Watts, The Way of Zen (WZ)

REQUIREMENTS: 3 tests, each 20%; 1 field visit report, 25%; 1 final, 15%

Attendance is expected. Each unexcused absence over 3 deducts 2 points from average

DATE	ASSIGNED READINGS
	SECTION I: How do we study religion?
Wed, Aug 26	Introductory session; film, "Baraka"
Fri, Aug 28	AS, chs 1 & 2
Mon, Aug 31	AS, ch 3
Wed, Sep 2	AS, ch 4
Fri, Sep 4	AS, chs 5 & 6
Mon, Sep 7	Labor Day: no class
Wed, Sep 9	AS, ch 7
Fri, Sep 11	AS, ch 8
Mon, Sep 14	AS, ch 9
Wed, Sep 16	AS, chs 10 & 11
Fri, Sep 18	AS, ch 12
Mon, Sep 21	AS, ch 13
Wed, Sep 23	AS, ch 14
Fri, Sep 25	TEST # 1
	SECTION II: Buddhism
Mon, Sep 28	WZ, part one, ch 2
Wed, Sep 30	WZ, part one, ch 2
Fri, Oct 2	Film, "Footsteps of the Buddha"
Mon, Oct 5	WZ, part one, ch 1
Wed, Oct 7	WZ, part one, ch 3
Fri, Oct 9	WZ, part one, ch 4 Library information on field visit due
Mon, Oct 12	Semester break: no class
Wed, Oct 14	Film, "Zen: search for enlightenment"
Fri, Oct 16	Zen meditation; bring sitting cushion
Mon, Oct 19	WZ, part two, chs 1 & 2
Wed, Oct 21	WZ, part two, chs 3 & 4
Fri, Oct 23	TEST # 2
	SECTION III: Christianity
Mon, Oct 26	CH, ch. I
Wed, Oct 28	Film, "A Peculiar People"
Fri, Oct 30	CH, ch III
Mon, Nov 2	CH, ch III
Wed, Nov 4	CH, ch II
Fri, Nov 6	CH, ch II
Mon, Nov 9	Film or speaker
Wed, Nov 11	Selected Christian scriptures; to be announced
Fri, Nov 13	CH, chs IV & V
Mon, Nov 16	Film, "Holy Ghost People"
Wed, Nov 18	Discussion and review
Fri, Nov 20	TEST # 3
	SECTION IV: Sharing what we have experienced
Mon, Nov 23	FIELD VISIT REPORTS DUE at class time; penalty for lateness
Wed, Nov 25	Thanksgiving break: no class
Fri, Nov 27	Thanksgiving break: no class
Mon, Nov 30	Field visit reports
Wed, Dec 2	Field visit reports
Fri, Dec 4	Field visit reports
Mon, Dec 7	Field visit reports; review for final
Thurs, Dec. 10, 7:00-10:00 p.m.	final exam

EMORY UNIVERSITY



050000003700

RELIGION 100 - - - FIELD VISIT REPORT

The field visit report requirement for Religion 100, Introduction to Religion, is intended to serve three purposes:

- 1) to enable students to experience a tradition very different from their own
- 2) to familiarize students with library resources for the study of religion.
- 3) to allow students to apply insights and methods from class to the study of a specific religious group

PROCEDURE:

A) Select a religious tradition radically different from your own religious background. It may be a different world religion (e.g., a Christian studying Hinduism), or it may be another extreme within your own tradition (e.g., an Orthodox Jew attending a Reform service with a female rabbi)

B) Research the history, beliefs, and practices of that tradition in the libraries, with special attention to standard reference works such as the Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics, Harper's Encyclopedia of Religion, etc. (General encyclopedias are not acceptable.) Study also specific articles, books, pamphlets, etc., pertaining to the specific group you have chosen. Pay attention to what is especially important to your specific group: is it practice, beliefs, history, ritual, experience? Write six to eight pages from your library research, and hand it in on the date indicated on the syllabus. This is a rough draft; comments will be made, and you will have opportunity to revise it before turning it in as part of your final paper. It will be graded then. ***You must use proper reference note and bibliographic form; plagiarism is an Honor offense! Every time you use someone else's ideas you must give credit, even when you are not quoting exact words!!!***

C) Attend at least one worship service, prayer service, or meditation session of the group you have chosen. (Guidance will be given in class on possibilities.)

D) Interview at least two practitioners of the faith you have chosen.

E) Write up the final report, including library research, description of the worship service you attended, and interviews -- turn in on date indicated on syllabus. Students will share oral reports with the class during the last course days. Information from class reports will be included on final. Papers are due at class time: each day late will subtract two points from paper grade.

F) The criteria for credit on this assignment include: Did you risk experiencing a faith/practice strange to you? Did you catch the special "flavor" of this faith, of what is important to its adherents? Did you use scholarly resources for the study of this faith, and did you learn how to go about researching through the library? Did you genuinely participate in the worship/prayer/meditation time, or were you just a tourist? Did you engage in open, thoughtful conversation with people for whom this is their chosen faith? Did you reflect on how this faith compares with or contrasts with your own experience? (etc.)

G) Early in the course, students will be asked to indicate what religious groups they want to study, and everyone will receive a class list -- so if you want to get together with others interested in the same field visit, you may. The instructor can consult with you on transportation difficulties, suggestions of places, etc.