



Alabama
Department of
Postsecondary Education

Representing Alabama's Public Two-Year College System

REL 100
History of World Religions

I. REL 100 – History of World Religions

II. 3 Semester Hours

III. Class Meeting Dates/Times/Location

IV. Instructor, Contact Information, Contract Policy, Office Hours, Office Location

V. Course Description

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the beliefs and practices of the major contemporary religions of the world. This includes religions of Africa, the Orient, and the western world. The student should have an understanding of the history and origins of the various religions of the world.

VI. Prerequisite

As required by program.

VII. Textbook

Due to the varied selection of quality college level textbooks, each college will select the textbook needed to meet the requirements of this course.

V. Course Objectives

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

- A. Demonstrate knowledge of the organization of specific world religions.
- B. Demonstrate knowledge of the core beliefs and theology of specific world religions.
- C. Demonstrate knowledge of the geographical and historical setting for the specific world religions.

VI. Course Outline of Topics

- A. Early Religious Concepts.
- B. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Judaism
- C. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Christianity
- D. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Islam
- E. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Hinduism
- F. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Buddhism

- G. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of the Chinese Traditions
- H. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of the Japanese Traditions
- I. The History, Formation, and Beliefs of Other Religions

VII. Evaluation and Assessment

Grades may be given based upon the following scale: A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VIII. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

IX. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

The College and the Alabama State Board of Education are committed to providing both employment and educational environments free of harassment or discrimination related to an individual's race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Such harassment is a violation of State Board of Education policy. Any practice or behavior that constitutes harassment or discrimination will not be tolerated.\

X. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College.



Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education

Representing Alabama's Public Two-Year College System

Snead State Community College

Tradition at its Best



REL 100

History of World Religions Semester

Instructor: D. Jonathan Watts, Ph.D.

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Office: 108 English Building

I. **REL 100 – History of World Religions- 3 Semester Hours**

II. **Course Description**

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III. **Prerequisite**

None

IV. **Textbook**

The Illustrated Guide to World Religions, edited by Michael D. Coogan. Oxford University Press.

V. **Course Objectives**

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At Snead State, late arrival counts as one-third of an absence. From time to time, roll may be called at the end of class. Students who leave early will miss roll call and be counted absent. The instructor should contact through campus e-mail any student who has missed 15% of a class. A "W" may be assigned to a student who misses more than 25% of class time during a term. For this class, which meets _____ times a week, a student can miss no more than _____ classes or labs. Upon the _____ absence, the instructor may withdraw the student from this class. ***Students are responsible for keeping up with their number of absences in a class.*** If students stop attending class, **THEY SHOULD WITHDRAW OFFICIALLY AND NOT ASSUME THAT THE INSTRUCTOR WILL DROP THEM.** If students experience extenuating circumstances, they may appeal to the instructor. The instructor may or may not choose to accept extenuating circumstances. Students may appeal to the Department Coordinator and to the Director of Instruction, whose decision is final. Online instructors should define 15% and 25% of a course by the number of assignments/tests in the course. ***SINCE INSTRUCTORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WITHDRAW STUDENTS, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE BY THE LAST DAY TO DROP WITH A GRADE OF "W" AS LISTED IN THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR--BEFORE A GRADE OF "F" IS ASSIGNED.***

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XI. Academic Integrity

Snead State students are expected to acknowledge their sources, to use their own words, to do their own work, and never to falsify a record or fabricate data. Plagiarism, cheating on tests, or other forms of academic dishonesty will be handled by the individual instructor. In some cases a student may be

reported to the appropriate administrative official and may be given a failing grade in the course, and/or may be expelled from college. For the entire policy, see page 204 in the *College Catalog 2004/2005*.

XII. Disruptions – Communication Devices/Behavior

All communication devices that make noise (i.e., pagers, cell phones, etc.) must be turned off during class. Any disturbance caused by such devices or by disruptive student behavior can result in the student being dismissed from class.

XIII. To Obtain Grades

Snead State students may access final semester grades online at www.snead.edu by the following procedure: Click on Students and SSCC online, enter Student Identification Number (Social Security Number) and Personal Identification Number (six-digit birthdate—mmddyy), and click on My Grades. Grade reports are not mailed to students. Students should check semester course schedules to verify when grades will be available online each term. Students wishing to know their final examination grade and/or final grade for the course prior to grades being posted online should bring a self-addressed stamped envelope to their instructor no later than the day of the final examination.

XIV. To Obtain Campus E-mail

Students will check their mail by choosing “Students” from the Snead Home Page, choosing “Student WebMail,” and entering their User Name and Password. The User Name is first name (dot) last name (john.smith). This will be the same first and last name that is the first part of the e-mail address. The Password is the student number.