

**Eastern WV Community & Technical College
Master Course Record**

Course Prefix and Number: REL 130 Introduction to Comparative Religion
Course Title: Introduction to Comparative Religion
Recommended Transcript Title: Introduction to Comparative Religion
Date Approved/Revised: 4/11/11; 10/5/17
Credit Hours: 3 Contact hours per week (Based on 15 week term): Lecture: 3 Lab: None
Prerequisite: None Corequisite: None Pre/Corequisite: None
Grading Mode: Letter grade
Catalog Description: Comparative study of major world and selected regional religions with emphasis on analysis of belief, ritual, artistic expression, and social organization. Eastern and Western religions are considered.
Course Outcomes: Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the identifying features within the five major religious traditions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) in the world including sacred texts, founders, sects, and core beliefs. 2. Evaluate the similarities and differences between the major five religious traditions of the world. 3. Locate the regions where these religious traditions originated and are currently practiced. 4. Analyze each religion within an academic rather than a devotional context. 5. Justify the educational value of studying the major five world religions. 6. Distinguish between monotheistic religions and polytheistic religions as well as identifying avatar religions. 7. Conduct meaningful discussion with fellow students regarding topics within these religious traditions. 8. Explain the ultimate goal of each major religion. 9. Identify how these religions are practiced within American society. 10. Reference various modern religious leaders.
Implementation Cycle: Fall
Role in College Curriculum: (Check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Education Core: A.A./A.S. Humanities <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Core (Specify Program) <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted Elective (Specify Program) <input type="checkbox"/> General Elective
Course Fee: None

Instructor's Qualifications: Master's degree with 18 credit hours in theology or related discipline.

Expanded Course Description:
Given text readings, print, and electronic resources students will demonstrate through class discussions, group work, and essays the ability to think critically about religion. They will understand the various theories about the origin of religion, ways to analyze religion, and the specific belief sets and rituals of the major religions of the world. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of how the major world religions compare to one another, of their place in history, and their current impact upon the world.

Prepared by: Scott Dixon, Adjunct Faculty, 4/10/11

Leslie Laschinger, Adjunct Faculty, 10/5/17

Approved by:
Robert Eagle (Per LOT Minutes 4-18-11)

Dean, Academic Services

Date