This course syllabus is intended as a set of guidelines for Introduction to Major World Religions 1304. Both North Lake College and your instructor reserve the right to make modifications in content, schedule, and requirements as necessary to promote the best education possible within prevailing conditions affecting this course.

Instructor Information:
Professor: Kyle Herron
Email: kherron@dcccd.edu
Office Phone Number: 
Office Location: 
Campus: North Lake College
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Information
Course title: Introduction to Major World Religions
Course number: PHIL 1304
Section number(s): 7556
Credit hours: 3 credit hours
Class meeting location & time: Thursday 5:45 – 8:35 p.m. N110 LEC
Course Description: RELI 1304 Major World Religion (3)
The Texas Common Course Number is PHIL 1304.
Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading. This course surveys the major world religions. Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity are included. The history of religions is covered, but the major emphasis is on current beliefs. Other topics may also be included, such as the nature of religion, tribal religion, and alternatives to religion. (3 Lec.)
Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 3802015212

Required Textbooks and Materials
PHILOSOPHY 1304 COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major world religions. (CCIC-1, CCIC-2, CCIC-3, EEO-2)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of what the study of religion involves. (CCIC-1, CCI-2, CCIC-4, CCIC-5, EEO-1, EEO-3, EEO-5)
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic language of religious studies. (CCIC-1, CCIC-2)
4. Demonstrate an understanding of personal and social issues related to the major religions of the world. (CCIC-1, CCIC-2, CCIC-3, EEO-1, EEO-2)
5. Demonstrate an appreciation for the uniqueness of each religion. (CCIC-3, CCIC-4, CCIC-5, EEO-5, EEO-7)
6. Demonstrate an understanding and sensitivity to the various religions. (CCIC-2, CCIC-3, CCIC-5, EEO-5)

Note: Specific Educational Objectives and Intellectual Competencies addressed by course objectives have been noted.

COURSE-LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)

I. The students will identify and describe the central, beliefs, practices and contributions of the five major religions of the world—Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam at 75% proficiency as measured as measured by the departmental post-test. EEO#1, EEO#2, EEO #7, CCIC #1, CCIC #4

II. The students will demonstrate a knowledge of the basic language, cultural practices, and world geography of the major world religions at 75% proficiency. EEO #5 ; CCICs #2, #3, & #5

III. The students will compare and contrast the central doctrines and practices of the major world religions at 75% proficiency. EEO #5 ; CCICs #2, #3, & #5

COURSE OUTLINE

Please see Appendix A attached to this syllabus for a complete and detailed course outline.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

See Appendix B for an explanation of Evaluation Procedures. Also see Appendices C & D for assessment rubrics for specific assignments.

GRADING SCALE

Grading scale
A = 90 to 100
B = 80 to 89
C = 70 to 79
D = 60 to 69
F = 59 and below
**EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES (EEOs) in Philosophy 1304**

As part of the Core Curriculum, Philosophy 1304 satisfies the following Exemplary Educational Objectives set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

1. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
5. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

**CORE CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES (CCICs)**

This course reinforces 5 of the 6 Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The CCIC’s identified by the DCCCD which are reinforced by Philosophy 1304 are as follows:

1. **READING**: Reading at the college level means the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials -- books, articles, and documents. A Core Curriculum should offer students the opportunity to master both general methods of analyzing printed materials and specific methods for analyzing the subject matter of individual disciplines.

2. **WRITING**: Competency in writing is the ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion, and audience. Although correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation are each a sine qua non in any composition, they do not automatically ensure that the composition itself makes sense or that the writer has much of anything to say. Students need to be familiar with the writing process including how to discover a topic and how to develop and organize it, how to phrase it effectively for their audience. These abilities can be acquired only through practice and reflection.

3. **SPEAKING**: Competence in speaking is the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience. Developing this competency includes acquiring poise and developing control of the language through experience in making presentations to small groups, to large groups, and through the media.

4. **LISTENING**: Listening at the college level means the ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication.

5. **CRITICAL THINKING**: Critical thinking embraces methods for applying both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to subject matter in order to evaluate arguments and to construct alternative strategies. Problem solving is one of the applications of critical thinking, used to address an identified task.
## COURSE OUTLINE

The following table lists the major assignments, a description of each, required readings, and due date for each assignment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Chapter Readings</td>
<td>Assigned readings from the required course textbook and other resources.</td>
<td>See Course Syllabus</td>
<td>See Appendix A in Course Syllabus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Research and or Reflection Paper</td>
<td>The student will write a research paper detailing the beliefs, traditions, practices, and/or history of one major world religion.</td>
<td>Grading Rubric in Syllabus</td>
<td>See Appendix A in Course Syllabus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Presentation</td>
<td>The student will research and create a presentation with the use of technology and visual aids on a topic(s) related to one of the major world religions.</td>
<td>Grading Rubric in Syllabus</td>
<td>See Appendix A in Course Syllabus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Quizzes &amp; Exams</td>
<td>Assessments detailing the beliefs, traditions, practices, people, and history of the major world religions.</td>
<td>Instructor lecture notes, course textbook, and other instructor assignment materials.</td>
<td>See Appendix A in Course Syllabus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Addendum A: Learning Activities, Outcomes, and Assessments for Philosophy 1304 (Form A)

1. Learning Activity: Both formal and informal student weekly discussions both in class and online.
   a. Learning Outcomes: The student will identify and describe the central, beliefs, practices and contributions of the five major religions of the world—Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
   b. Assessment: Lesson Quizzes & Unit Exams
   c. EEO’s and CCIC’s: EEO#1, EEO#2, EEO #7, CCIC #1, CCIC #4

2. Learning Activity: Weekly review of vocabulary words from course textbook and lectures
   a. Learning Outcomes: The student will demonstrate a knowledge of the basic language of the major world religions.
   b. Assessment: Lesson Quizzes & Exams
   c. EEO’s and CCIC’s: EEO #5 ; CCICs #2, #3, & #5

3. Learning Activity: Research Paper
   a. Learning Outcomes: The student will compare and contrast the central doctrines and practices of the major world religions.
   b. Assessment: This assignment [i.e., the research paper] will be evaluated using a grading rubric.
   c. EEO’s and CCIC’s: EEO #5 ; CCICs #2, #3, & #5

4. Learning Activity: Student Presentation: This assignments requires the student to develop a 15 minute presentation about any topic(s) related to one major world religion. This presentation must include the use of Power Point visuals and other media resources.
   a. Learning Outcomes: The student will demonstrate a knowledge and understanding about the central, beliefs, practices, traditions, and contributions of the five major religions of the world—Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
   b. Assessment: This assignment [i.e., the student presentation] will be evaluated using a grading rubric.
   c. EEO’s and CCIC’s: EEO #5 ; CCICs #2, #3, & #5
INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
The Student Code of Conduct prohibits academic dishonesty and prescribes penalties for violations. According to this code, which is printed in the college catalog, "academic dishonesty", includes (but is not limited to) cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and collusion".
Academic dishonesty may result in the following sanctions, including, but not limited to:
1. A grade of zero or a lowered grade on the assignment or course.
2. A reprimand.
3. Suspension from the college.

NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY(S)
Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Please refer to the Student Obligations section of the college catalog for more explanation. You are required to complete any assignments or take any examinations missed as a result of the absence within the time frame specified by your instructor.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
North Lake College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities, as defined under ADA law. It is the student's choice and responsibility to initiate any request for accommodations. If you are a student with a disability who requires such ADA accommodations, please contact North Lake College’s Disability Services Office in person (A430) or by phone at 972-273-3165. http://www.northlakecollege.edu/resources/disability.html

DROP POLICY
If you are unable to complete this course, you must officially withdraw by Thursday, November 17, 2011. Withdrawing is a formal procedure which you must initiate; your instructor cannot do it for you.

All Dallas County Community Colleges charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third time for a course. This rule applies to the majority of credit and Continuing Education / Workforce Training courses. Developmental Studies and some other courses are not charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any DCCCD college since the fall 2002 semester. For further information, go online to:
http://www.DCCCD.edu/thirdcourseattempt.

FINANCIAL AID STATEMENT
Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. If you fail to attend or participate after the drop date, you are also subject to this policy.

To apply for financial aid in the DCCCD, students must complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on the web at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov.
COUNSELING SERVICES
Counseling services for personal issues are provided to all students currently enrolled at North Lake College. These services are provided by licensed professionals who are bound by confidentiality (within ethical parameters) at no charge. With the assistance of a counselor, students are able to identify, understand, resolve issues and develop appropriate skills. If you are a currently enrolled student, you are eligible for free counseling services. You may schedule an appointment by calling 972-273-3333 or going to A-311.

THE ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER (ASC)
The ASC is designed to provide assistance to students in the following areas:

Labs for students enrolled in foreign language, Developmental Reading, and ESOL courses. One-on-one tutoring is available.

The Writing Center can help students clarify writing tasks, understand instructors’ requirements, develop and organize papers, explore revision options, detect grammar and punctuation errors, and properly use and document sources. Rather than merely editing or "fixing" papers, tutors focus on helping students develop and improve their writing skills.

The Online Writing Lab (OWL) allows students to submit papers to our writing tutors electronically and get feedback within 24-72 hours. The OWL can be accessed through eCampus. After logging on to eCampus, click on the Community Tab at the top. Type “Owl” in the search field and click “Go.” Next, click on the double drop-down arrows next to “NLC-OWL2,” and then click on “Enroll.” Once enrolled, students can receive services from the OWL.

For more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment, come by A-332 or call 972-273-3089.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP
If you enrolled in college-level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, the Texas Education Code 51.907 allows you to drop no more than six courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. The Counseling/Advising Center will give you more information about allowable exceptions.

Once you have accumulated six non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W.” Therefore, you need to exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. More information is available at http://www.northlakecollege.edu/admissions/drop.html or https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/dw.cfm.
**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**
1. Attend class. If you do miss class, be prepared for the next class session and complete all work assigned during your absence.
2. Submit assignments on time and in the form required by the instructor.
3. Read all assigned textbook selections and materials.
4. Visit the Writing Center (A332) or your instructor for help. However, do not expect your instructor to repeat a lecture delivered in your absence.
5. Make at least one friend in class so that notes and instructions can be exchanged.

---

**North Lake College - DCCCD**
**Syllabus Addendum- Fall 2012**
**PHIL 1304 – Major World Religions**

**Instructor’s Policies**

**Attendance:** The instructor will take attendance, in accordance with state requirements. Attendance will count toward student grades. To obtain a student’s attendance grade, the instructor will divide the number of days attended by the total number of class periods (15).

**Late Work:** Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the date given. If the assignment is turned in a class period late, 10 percentage points will be subtracted from the grade for that assignment. *If the work is more than a class period late, it will not be accepted.*

**Make-up Exams:** If you miss an exam, you must have a documented emergency excuse that shows you were unable to do take it. Otherwise, you get a zero for the exam. *In the event of an emergency, make-up exams will be all essay and administered in the testing center.*

**Alteration:** The instructor reserves the right to alter the details contained in the syllabus if circumstances arise that necessitate it. The student must take steps to inform her- or himself of these changes if they are absent from class and miss announcements, including consulting classmates and checking email.

**Plagiarism:** Cheating will not be tolerated in any form. Whether on an exam or in a regular assignment, you will receive a zero as the final grade for the offending work and be reported to the Liberal Arts Dean. If you plagiarize, you give up the privilege of being allowed to do an assignment over and resubmit it.

**Grade Distribution**
4 Exams: 15% each (lecture and reading content)
Documented Essay or Dialogue Paper: 15%
Presentation: 15%
Participation and Attendance: 10%

Instructions and Rubrics for assignments will be given in class. Due dates for papers and presentation will be assigned individually in class.
Course Schedule (Subject to change)
8/30: Course introduction and get acquainted activities.
Pre-Test in class (does not affect grade)
Read Molloy Chapter 1 – pp. 5-29 prior to class

9/6: Indigenous traditions
Read Molloy Chapter 2

9/13: Hinduism- Read Molloy Chapter 3 pp. 75-90

9/20: Hinduism- Read Molloy pp 90-119
**Exam 1 on Chapter 1 and 2**

9/27: Buddhism- Read Molloy 125-159

10/4: Buddhism- Read Molloy 160-183

10/11: Buddhism / Film Excerpts and Discussion

10/18: Religion, Violence and Evil
**Exam 2 on Hinduism and Buddhism**

10/25: Judaism – Read Molloy 289-311

11/1: Judaism – Read Molloy 311-340

11/8: Christianity – Read Molloy 343-383

11/15: Christianity- Read Molloy 343-383

11/22 Thanksgiving Holiday- No class

11/29 Islam- Read Molloy 423-443

12/6 **Exam 3 - Judaism, Christianity, Islam**

12/13 **Final Exam**