MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS
PHIL 1304 SECTIONS 2402 and 9009 BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE & DALLAS
TELECOLLEGE
DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Fall 2012

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CATALOG DESCRIPTION PREREQUISITE: Developmental Reading 0093 or English
as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or must 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.

COORDINATING BOARD ACADEMIC APPROVAL NUMBER 3802015212

OBJECTIVES This course is designed as an introduction to and survey of major world
religions. The academic study of religion -- which is not to be confused with a faith-
centered approach to the study of religion -- approaches the phenomenon of religion in
human life as an objective field of study and inquiry. This course will focus upon the
theology, beliefs, history, rituals, and practices of the world's major religions.

COURSE MATERIALS Required textbook: Experiencing the World's Religions, Fifth

Students may purchase the textbook from Missouri Bookstore via Internet or telephone.

MBS Online Bookstore: http://direct.mbsbooks.com/dcccd.htm. Respond to the
prompts. You will need to know your course name and pay with a credit card.
By Phone: 1-800-325-3252

Students may also purchase this required text at the Follett Bookstore located on the
Brookhaven College campus.

The textbook is also available as an eTextbook at www.coursesmart.com, which
allows for significant savings.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT PHIL 1304 requires access to a
computer, the Internet and e-mail.
If you should have any technical difficulties, send an e-mail to ecampus.support@dcccd.edu or call 972-669-6402. Also alert the instructor concerning any technical problems.

**PHIL1304** is a part of the Core Curriculum and addresses the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies as set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

**Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies**
1. Reading - the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials - books, documents, and articles - above 12th grade level.
2. Writing - the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience - above 12th grade level.
3. Critical Thinking - think and analyze at a critical level.

**Exemplary Educational Objectives in Religion**
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.

**Student Learning Outcomes**
These outcomes address the Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies for Philosophy.

Upon completion of PHIL 1304, students will be able to demonstrate competence in the academic study of religion by:

I. Describing the dominant characteristics of some of the world’s major religious traditions by writing an essay in which students identify and explain the key personages, scriptures, and beliefs of selected religious traditions.

II. Applying critical thinking by writing an essay in which students analyze the impact of selected religious worldviews on society.

III. Creating an informed personal response to selected religious traditions by writing an essay in which students develop and defend their own personal response to selected religious traditions.

**POLICIES**

**Withdrawal:** If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar's Office...
by Nov. 15, 2012. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F." If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped.

**Stop Before You Drop:** For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a "W". Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: [https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops](https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops)

**Students Receiving Financial Aid:** If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must show participation in this class prior to the certification date (Sept. 10, 2012) by either e-mailing or contacting the instructor or logging on to eCampus. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid office. Changes in your enrollment level and/or failing grades may have adverse consequences. Phone: 972-860-4110.

**Please note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this course online. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor and seeking clarification of any requirement that is not understood.

**Repeating This Course:** Effective with the Fall 2005 Semester, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third of subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester.

**Disabilities Act Compliance:** If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires ADA accommodations, please contact your college [Disability/Special Services](https://www1.dcccd.edu) office in Room S-124 or call 972-860-4847 on the Brookhaven Campus.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the [Dallas County Community Colleges Code of Student Conduct](https://www1.dcccd.edu) published in the Brookhaven College Catalog.
COMPLETING THE COURSE The class schedule, required readings and assignments are found under the Assignments tab on the class website. **Note: before proceeding with course work, you must complete and submit the Orientation Form found under the Orientation tab; otherwise, any course work you submit will not be reviewed and any tests you take will receive a grade of 0 until the Orientation Form is submitted.**

The course is divided into seven units. Each unit should be completed entirely before proceeding to the next unit. Take the **final exam** after you have completed all seven units and the **unit tests**. The **final exam is comprehensive**, that is, it covers the five major religions studied in the course.

**Note the target date for completing each unit.** The target date is not a due date; rather, it is meant to help you pace yourself so that you can see where you probably should be at any given time throughout the semester. While this course is asynchronous (you work on it by yourself whenever you want and are not required to be on-line at specific times), you really do need to plan your schedule so that all coursework is completed by the end of the semester. Be aware that if you fall behind, catching up at the end of the course will be difficult, if not impossible. **It is your responsibility to complete all units and the final exam no later than Thurs. Dec. 13, 2012.**

The course also has four Discussions. Each discussion has a **due date.** You will find discussion requirements explained below under **GRADING PROCEDURES** and in the Guidelines for Class Discussions under the Discussion Board tab.

**The essay has a due date.** You will find the essay requirements explained below under **GRADING PROCEDURES** and in the Assignments tab.

Your coursework will cover four areas of academic endeavor:
1. Reading and studying the assigned chapters in Michael Molloy’s *Experiencing the World’s Religions, Fifth Edition* and other assigned readings listed for each unit. The complete schedule of readings and assignments is posted under the Assignments tab.
2. Taking all tests and the final exam. These are posted under the Assignments tab.
3. Turning in a minimum 1,000 word essay. Instructions for the essay can be found under the Assignments tab. (See grading rubric found under the Course Information tab.)
4. Participating in four class discussions, found under the Discussion Board tab.

**GRADING PROCEDURES** Grades will be based on a scale of 754 points, distributed as follows:

**Six tests at 104 possible points each = 624 points**
(There are six test on each of the main units covered. Each test will have 26 multiple
choice questions. The lowest score will be dropped so that only five tests are counted in the final grade.)

**Final exam = 100 points**  
(The final will contain a mix of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions.)

**Essay = 10 points**  
(You will write an essay of 1,000 to 3,000 words on the topic listed as Essay under the Assignments tab. The grading rubric for this paper is listed under the Course Information tab.)

**Discussion = 20 points**  
(5 points possible for each discussion, 4 discussions)  
NOTE: In order to receive credit for any one discussion, you must include a minimum of TWO posts of a minimum of 100 words each: either 1) a thread and a response or 2) two responses. In addition, posts must be submitted by the discussion deadline.

**TOTAL = 754 points**

Grade distribution:  
A = 664 - 754 points  
B = 573 - 663 points  
C = 482 - 572 points  
D = 391 - 481 points  
F = 391 or fewer points

**COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR** I try to review and grade all newly posted material at least once a day during the week. Also, you can expect me to respond to your e-mails normally within 24 hours during the week. Be aware that while this is my general and intended practice, it is subject to the changes and chances of life.

**The Dallas TeleCollege website:** Technical Requirements and Support (for eCampus users)

- PHIL 1304 requires access to a computer, the Internet and e-mail.  
- If you should have any technical difficulties, you may go to the [http://ecampus.dcccd.edu](http://ecampus.dcccd.edu) or call 972-669-6402. There is a link for Student Assistance where you may submit a ticket. Also alert the instructor concerning any technical problems.  
- Everything you need to know about the Dallas Community Colleges and distance education can be found at our website: [http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/dl/](http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/dl/) or [http://online.dcccd.edu/default.htm](http://online.dcccd.edu/default.htm)  
- The eCampus Technical Support and Help Desk can be found at [http://ecampus.dcccd.edu/](http://ecampus.dcccd.edu/)
RETRIEVING YOUR GRADE AND eConnect Students may retrieve their grades on-line through eConnect at http://econnect.dcccd.edu.

Specific instructions for obtaining your grades can be found at http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/grades.html

Go to http://www.brookhavencollege.edu/onlinesvcs/students/ to learn about all the student services that are available to you through eConnect.