Phil 1304—Syllabus—Halleen—1

Richland College
Humanities Division
Course Syllabus
Summer I 2012

PHIL 1304 Section 8001
World Religions
3 Credit Hours
WH109, 9:40am-11:40pm, MTWR

Professor: Dr. David Halleen
Telephone Number:
Division: 972-238-6250
ACCESS Office: 972-238-6140
Home: 972-278-9054
Email: dhalleen@dcccd.edu
Hours Available: By Appointment

Course Description
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 Texts

Exemplary Educational Objectives in Philosophy/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 and 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.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:
COMPENTENCIES FOR PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION COURSES

Reading: Students will be asked to read from philosophy and religion textbooks written for students reading at the 12th grade level or above. Students may be asked to read some short passages from primary sources. Student achievement will be measured by
such methods as exams, quizzes, and in-class discussion of the material.

**Writing:** Students will be given opportunities to write essays and papers about philosophical and religious issues. The student’s progress in improving academic writing will be communicated by such methods as instructor remarks written on papers and individual student conferences.

**Speaking:** Students are expected to participate in such speaking activities as class discussions, small group discussions, and class presentations. The instructor will evaluate their speaking skills.

**Listening:** Students will enhance their listening skills by practicing speaking one at a time and attending to the speaker. Students may be asked to summarize or repeat an argument they have just heard.

**Critical Thinking:** Students’ writing and class participation will be evaluated continually by such criteria as clarity, consistency, coherence, comprehensiveness, compatibility, and fairness in thought and expression.

**Scope and Variety in Philosophy and Religion:** By studying a wide range of ideas, purported by different historical periods, ages, and cultures, the student will demonstrate through written and spoken work an awareness of the scope and variety of issues and ideas studied in philosophy and religion. Some non-western ideas may be presented and discussed.

**Expressions of Individual and Human Values within a Social and Historical Context:** In class ideas will generally be presented within a historical, cultural, and social context, so students can understand why and how the ideas emerged. Students will be encouraged, in class discussions and in written work, to relate the ideas studied in philosophy and religion to ideas studied in other courses (e.g., literature, psychology, history, etc.).

**Critical Response:** Students will practice, in speech and writing, giving reasoned, critical responses to the ideas and theories presented. Unsupported statements of likes or dislikes will be treated as seminal material by the instructor for the development of a reasoned, critical response to a theory, idea, or religion.

**Informed Personal Reaction:** Students will be encouraged by the instructor to personalize the material studied and to react to it. The instructor, however, may ask students to support reactions by such means as the use of logic, reason, and bibliographical research.

**Influence of Philosophy/Religion on Intellectual Experiences:** Through such means as written papers and exams, class participation and discussions, oral presentations, and small group activities, students will relate the ideas and theories studied in religion and philosophy to various related intellectual experiences.

**THE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Philosophy/Religion Department at Richland College is to provide to students and teachers alike interactive and cooperative learning environments in which they may examine ideas related to their cultural, philosophical, and religious heritages. The Department further strives to develop skills in analysis and evaluation of arguments.
and the ability to write and to speak clearly about philosophic and religious issues, which pertain to values, knowledge, reality, human nature, and God. The Department aims at translating these skills into considered actions in the lives of those involved and into reasoned interactions with the greater global community.

Assignments
Assigned Readings from Textbooks (see course schedule on pp. 5-6 for details)
Observation Project (see class website for a detailed description)

Evaluation/Requirements
A. Regular attendance is expected. More than two absences during the semester will lower your final grade. Excessive absences will lead to further reduction in your course grade, or even in a failing grade. If you attend less than half of the class you will be counted as absent for that class. If you would like to get credit for attending a class that you did not attend you can do so by going to and observing another religious site (other than your own). This site may fall within your own faith tradition (i.e. a Catholic could visit a Protestant Church) or outside your tradition. After visiting the site, write a one page reflection of your visit. Each visitation will negate one absence. You must visit different sites from different religions if you want to makeup for multiple absences. You cannot use the visit for your observation project to make up for an absence.

Attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Max:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>85 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>75 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>65 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6+</td>
<td>0 pts.</td>
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B. You are expected to read all of the assigned readings carefully and in advance of the class session. Careful reading involves working out your own understanding of the material and your own list of issues and questions that need to be addressed in order to evaluate the readings. You should be prepared to discuss issues related to the readings in class. Class participation is an integral part of the course.

C. Quizzes. The professor may begin class with a short quiz. The questions will be of the true/false, multiple choice, and fill-in-blank variety touching on the most important or (hopefully) memorable aspects of the reading assigned. At the end of the semester, your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped (so if you miss class on that day you will receive a 0 and as long as you only miss one or two quizzes the 0 will be dropped). No make-up quizzes!

D. Exam. This exam will cover the material discussed in Unit I. The instructor will make review sheets available for Hinduism and Buddhism prior to exam.

E. Observation Project. During the semester, your group will be required to visit a public Worship Center of one of the faith traditions covered in this course. I will provide you with a list of Dallas area locations, although your group may select an alternative site of your choice to visit. You must make your own arrangements for the visit.

1) After your visit, each person in the group will be responsible for turning in a reflective essay about the experience (2-3 pages). The essay should include a brief description of what you observed but mainly concentrate on your own reflection of the experience.
2) Your group will make a short in-class presentation (10-15mins. maximum) on your visit experience for the benefit of the rest of the class. Each group will visit a different religious tradition and the paper and report will be due on the last day that we discuss the particular religious tradition your group visited. The aim of this assignment is to observe that which we are studying. For each day the paper is late there will be a two-point deduction.

F. Final Exam. This exam will cover material from the entire semester but focus more heavily on Unit II. The instructor will make available review sheets for Judaism, Islam, and Christianity prior to exam.

Policies on Missed Tests/Assignments
If you miss a quiz or fail to turn in an assignment, you will receive a 0. If you miss the final exam without having made previous arrangements with the instructor you will receive a 0. Each day the observation project is late incurs a 2 point penalty.

Course Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam—Unit I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observation Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Grading Scale:

A  450+
B  400-449
C  350-399
D  300-349
F  0-299

Writing Expectations
The reflection paper assignment in this class should include your own personal reactions and thoughts. A good reflection paper will show evidence that the author reflected extensively on the observation experience. Opinions and ideas should be thoughtful, comprehensive, creative, and/or insightful. You will provide depth to the paper by providing such things as specific example, multiple points of view, opposing points of view, analogies, comparisons, lists of ideas, etc. Be sure to organize content so that ideas are grouped and sequenced logically. The content can include personal stories, things that have happened to you in relation to the issue, but, do not go overboard; there need to be judgments and conclusions based on those stories. In addition to the quality of your reflection, this assignment will be graded on such things as spelling, punctuation, grammar, word precision and style. All written work must be computer/typewriter generated in a 12pt font, double-spaced in black ink with 1” margins on white 8½ x 11” paper.

Plagiarism Policy
The writing assignment for this class is to be written in your own words and is to reflect your own thoughts. Accordingly, including any material other than your own work or quotes from a relevant source (properly cited) will constitute academic dishonesty and will result in a 0 for the assignment. Plagiarism is not just copying word for word from someone (without citation) but also taking the “ideas” of others without giving credit (in
other words paraphrasing without giving credit is plagiarism too). Also, plagiarism doesn’t necessarily entail that the entire paper is taken from another source or sources but maybe only a portion of the paper. Please see the following college website that helps discern plagiarism from non-plagiarized material (this is a link that can be found on the Dallas County Community Website concerning plagiarism)…
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html.

**Academic Honesty**
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 DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm (Select Purpose).

**Financial Aid Students**
If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you 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. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

**Obtaining Your Grades at the End of the Semester**
Grade reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online or by telephone. Just use your student identification number when you log in to e-Connect or call DCCCD Touch Tone Services. Web site address: http://econnect.dcccd.edu/. Telephone number: 972-613-1818.

**Student E-Mail**
Legal privacy issues prevent your instructor from discussing your work or your grades on commercial e-mail accounts. If you wish to send your papers as attachments to an e-mail (and the instructor permits it), or if you have a question about your grade, you must open a student e-mail account. The account is free. You may set it up by going to www.dcccd.edu and click on Student Services, Online Services, and Student NetMail. All students receiving financial aid must open a student NetMail account.

**Course Schedule**

**Unit I: Eastern Religions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Text References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/06</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
<td>WR 1-26, WW Preface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Religion?</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/07</td>
<td>Why Study Religion?</td>
<td>WR 26-59, WW 7-9 (6), 14 (9g), 42-43 (b)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hinduism: Intro</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>06/08</td>
<td>Hinduism: Paths to God</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stations of Life</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>06/11</td>
<td>Hinduism: Stages of Life</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supreme Reality, Self, &amp; World</td>
<td>WW 10-12 (9a), 16-17 (10e), 18-19 (12 a-c), 43-45 (c)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
06/12 Hinduism Texts
Buddhism: Intro
WW 9-10, 21-23(15), 24-34, 38-39 (e)
WR 82-99, WW 61-65 (16-20)

06/13 Buddhism: Four Noble Truths
WW 99-112, WW 65-66 (21-22),
108-109 (61)

06/14 Buddhism:
Basic Buddhist Concepts
Theravada & Mahayana Buddhism
WR 112-127, WW 68-70 (26-30),
75-76 (34), 77 (38), 80-82 (39),
83 (40b), 106-107 (57)

06/15 Pure Land & Zen
Review
WR 128-139, 144-149
WW 84-85 (40d), 98-99 (50-51)

06/18 Exam

Unit II: Western Religions

06/19 Judaism: Intro
Review Exam
WR 271-282, WW 176-179 (1-2)

06/20 Judaism: Story
The Hallowing of Life
WR 282-303, WW 182 (d), 183-186 (7-9)
190 (c), 196-198 (17), 201-202 (19 a-e),
221-223 (38)

06/21 Judaism: God and Humanity
WR 303-310, WW 179-181 (3, 4a),
186-188 (10), 208-210 (21 c-d)

06/22 Judaism: Texts
Islam: Intro
WR 310-315, WW 213-215 (23-24)
WR 221-231

06/25 Islam: God and God’s Word
WR 231-242, WW 282-288 (1-4)

06/26 The Five Pillars
WR 242-248, WW 296-299 (6),
331-332 (45)

06/27 Islam: Islamic Law
Sunnis, Shi’ites, & Sufism
WR 248-268, WW 300-305 (8-10e),
315-318 (21-25), 322-324 (35-38)

06/28 Christianity: Intro
Basic Beliefs
WR 317-329, WW 228-230 (1-5),
234-238 (12-18), 262-264 (36)

06/29 Christianity: Life of
the Early Church
WR 329-346, WW 241-244 (21-22b),
WW 254-259 (30-32)

07/02 Christianity: Roman Catholicism,
Eastern Orthodoxy, & Protestantism
WR 346-362, WW 246-248 (h, i)

07/03 Final Exam

Repeating This Course: (Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course)
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or 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 of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at: http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/

ADA Services
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office at 972-238-6180 (Voice/TTY), visit Thunderduck Hall, suite T120, or go to http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Student-Services/Disability+Services/ (CTRL + Click to access “Current Students” site to “Student Services” to “Disability Services”)

Religious Holidays/Observances
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. Notification of the absence must be given to the instructor in writing at least two weeks prior to the date of the holy day. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to contract with the instructor to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a mutually agreed upon time after the absence.

Withdrawal Policy (drop date is June 27)
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 (semester’s drop date). 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. For more information about drop deadlines, refer to the current printed Credit Class Schedule, contact the Admissions/Student Records office at 972-238-6100 or 6101 (Thunderduck Hall, T170), or contact the division office.

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

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as “directory information” to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized
activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of student and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.

Emergency/Inclement Weather Procedure
If you suspect a college closing or delayed opening due to inclement weather, there are many ways to find out if Richland is closed or will open later when the roads are safe.

1. Richland College's homepage will display a notification of any closings or delays.
2. The Dallas County Community College District website
3. Major television or radio stations such as http://www.wfaa.com/weather/ in the event that the DCCCD or Richland College websites are not operational.

Campus Emergency Operation Plan
Richland College and the Dallas County Community College District have developed policies and procedures for dealing with emergencies that may occur on campus.

To familiarize yourself with these procedures, please take time to watch the overview video: http://video.dcccd.edu/rtv/DO/emergency_dcccd.wmv

The complete Emergency Operations Plan can be viewed and printed at the following website: http://www.rlc.dcccd.edu/emergency

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Richland College Office of Emergency Management. This office can be reached by phone (972/238-3794) or by e-mail (rlcoem@dcccd.edu).

Policy on Incompletes
In very rare circumstances, incompletes may be an option but only as a very last resort and with a valid reason as to why the student could not complete the work in the required time.

Technical Support
Anytime you have questions concerning eCampus, please contact the computer resource folks at eCampus: 972.669.6402 or use the following link: http://d2.parature.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8023

Classroom Environment Expectations
If you know in advance that you might need to leave the class at some point please let me know prior to class and sit by the door. Cell phones should be turned off so as not to disrupt the class. Texting during class will negatively affect your participation grade!! No cell phones permitted on exam dates.

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.