



attention to certain critical issues as they relate to religion and politics and religion and economics. Examines some fundamental modes of religious life including ritual forms and mythic expressions. Includes other themes such as revitalization movements and processes of secularization in modern societies.

II. Course Outcomes

In this course, students will:

- a) Compare and contrast major world religions;
- b) Use sociological concepts and theories to analyze major world religions;
- c) Assess the role of modernization, secularization, globalization, and multi-culturalism

Wu-Wei

Week 4:

"Big Tradition" (official religion) versus "Little Tradition" (folk

religion)

This-Worldly versus other-worldly religious traditions

Local versus cosmopolitan religion

Hinduism The Vedas Samsara Dharma Moksha

Week 5:

Buddhism

The Four Noble Truths
The Eightfold Path

Theravada Buddhism

Mahayan Buddhism

Zen Buddhism

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Confucianism

Shintoism

Week 6:

Judaism

The Torah

Jewish theodicy Jewish rituals Christianity The Bible

Eschatologies

Messianic/Millenarian theodicies

Christian rituals

Week 7:

Islam

The Qur'an

The Prophet Muhammad The Five Pillars of Islam

Sunni Islam Shi'a Islam

Sufis Islamists

Week 8:

Religious Ethos

Religion and Ethics

Religion and Identity Construction

Community versus Individualistic Identities

Evangelicalism Pantagagtalism

		Religion and politics
		Religion and terrorism
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	Week 10:	Modernism and multiculturalism
		Secularization
		Privatization of religion
		Moral relativism
		Antisecularization thesis
	Week 11:	Culture wars
		Protest theologics
		Revitalization of religious traditions
		Christian Right (U.S.)
		Christian Nationalists
		Islamic traditionalists
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	<u> Week 12:</u>	Civil religion
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		Religious syncretism
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		"Cults"
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Religion and social inequality Religious ethics and social justice

Week 9:



	• The ability to use an appropriate web based instructional software such as							
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_	assignment submission features The shility to use word processing software and to save in either Microsoft							
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	Word or Rich Text Format							

- The ability to use Internet communication tools, specifically e-mail The ability to demonstrate appropriate online conduct
- **Technical Support**

IX. Bibliography

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	Davie Grace 2007 The Sociology of Religion Thousand Oaks, Sage
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Fiorina, Morris P. 2006. Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized America. New York: Pearson.

Goldberg, Michelle. 2007. Kingdom Coming: The Rise of Christian Nationalism. New York: W.W. Norton.

Goss, Robert C. and Mona West (eds.). 2000. Take Back the Word: A Queer Reading of the

Conceptual Framework	INTASC Standards	NCSS Program Standards	Course Objectives	Course Assessment
la	1	5. Individuals, Groups and Institutions 9. Global Connections	(a) - (g) (a) - (g)	Midterm Evaluation Final Evaluation

