

# **Religion 100. The Human Religious Experience**

Spring 2008

John Farina

Robinson B444

Office: 703 993-2054

Office Hours: Mon | 2:00-4:30 | T 4:30-5:30 | W 2:00-4:00 | R 4:30-5:30 |

## **Introduction**

This syllabus lists the titles of individual lectures and class meetings, not the dates of those meetings. Readings are all from the required course text, John Esposito, et al, *World Religions Today*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Supplemental readings are from Ian S. Markham, ed., *A World Religious Reader*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

## **Assignments and Evaluation**

You will be evaluated using the following factors:

1. In class examinations 75%
2. Final examination 25%

There will be six in class examinations, as indicated in the schedule below, and one final exam at the end of the term. No special accommodations can be made for the administration of exams, except for documented disabilities or illnesses. If you miss an exam, you will receive a 0 for that grade. The final examination is scheduled by the university. I cannot change that date for any reason.

## **Class Meetings**

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List of Lectures

*Fall 2006*

1. Introduction day
2. Definitions and the origin of religion. Modern theories. Readings: Esposito, pp. 4-14; Markham, pp. 1-6.
3. Religion in the postmodern world. Readings: Esposito, pp. 14-34.
4. Methods of studying religion. Readings: Markham, pp. 7-14.

## **Questions and examination**

5. Judaism. History. The formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito, pp. 65-102.
6. Judaism. Encounter with modernity and postmodernity. Readings: Esposito, pp. 102-129.
7. Judaism. Contd. Readings: Markham, pp. 231-258
8. Judaism. Contd. Markham, pp. 231-258.
9. **Questions and examination**
10. Christianity. History 1, formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito, 140-164.
11. Christianity. History 2, modern era. Readings: Esposito, 163-193.
12. Christianity. Readings: Markham, pp. 273-301.

13. Christianity. Contd.
14. Christianity. Contd.
15. **Questions and examination**
16. Islam. History 1, formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito. 195-235.
17. Islam. History 2, modernity and postmodernity. Readings: Esposito. 235-269.
18. Islam. Contd. Readings: Markham, 300-317.
19. Islam. Contd. Readings: Markham, 318-332.
20. **Questions and examination**
21. Hinduism. History 1, formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito. 271-301.
22. Hinduism. History 2, modernity and postmodernity. Readings: Esposito. 301-339.
23. Hinduism. Contd. Readings: Markham, pp. 59- 121.
24. Hinduism. Contd.
25. Buddhism. History 1, formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito. 341-380.
26. Buddhism. History 2, modernity and postmodernity. Readings: Esposito. 380-415.
27. Buddhism. Readings: Markham, 121-146.
28. Buddhism. Readings: Markham, 147-158.
29. Sikhism. History and Scriptures. Readings: Markham, 333-371.
30. **Questions and examination**
31. East Asian Religions. Confucianism and Daoism. History 1, formative and classical eras. Readings: Esposito, 417-454.
32. East Asian Religions. Confucianism and Daoism. History 2, modernity and postmodernity. Readings: Esposito, 454--495.
33. East Asian Religions. Confucianism and Daoism. Readings: Markham, 159-198.
34. Shinto. History and Scriptures. Readings: Markham, 199-230.
35. **Questions and examination**