

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

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**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** History of World Religions

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** REL 2570

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** This interdisciplinary course examines the development and variety of religious belief in the past and present. Historical, pre-historic, and non-literary traditions are examined, including Native American, African, Asian, Indo-European, and Semitic beliefs. Special consideration is given to religious development, assimilation, diffusion, practices, and phenomena. Cross-cultural comparisons and the key tenets of today's world faiths are also emphasized.

Prerequisite: ENG 1510.

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of major concepts, models, and issues of at least one discipline in the social sciences.
  2. Demonstrate understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical interpretive analysis.
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**Topics Covered:**

Instructors may include a variety of topics, but should include:

- What is Religion
  - This historical and scientific methods
  - Hinduism
  - Buddhism
  - Confucianism and Taoism
  - Shinto
  - Judaism
  - Christianity
  - Islam
  - Myth
  - Symbol
  - Ritual
  - Religious Specialists
  - Witchcraft
  - Syncretism and religious movements
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**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
    - [Civility Statement](#)
    - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
    - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
  - [Accessibility Services](#)  
Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
  - [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
  - [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
  - Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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  - Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
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**Effective Date:** Fall 2023