



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

CS252

WORLD RELIGIONS

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	CS252	
Unit name	World Religions	
Associated higher education awards	Associate Degree in Business Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Bachelor of Business Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Bachelor of Social Science	
Duration	One semester	
Level	Advanced	
Unit Coordinator	Colin Stoodley	
Core/Elective	Elective	
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: 160 – Associate Degree courses 240 – Bachelor courses	
Student workload	Face to face on site	External
	Contact hours 39	Engagement with study materials 90
	Reading, study, and preparation 59	Assignment preparation 60
	Assignment preparation 52	TOTAL 150
	TOTAL 150	
Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional 1 hour per week.		
Delivery mode	Face to face on site External	
Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions	Prerequisite: CS215 Contours for a Bible-based Christ-centred Worldview	
Rationale	Evangelical Christians have traditionally been interested in other religions in the context of missionary activities in foreign countries. However, in contemporary multicultural Australia, it is just as likely that the person next door will adhere to an entirely different religious belief system. It is therefore important for teachers, counsellors, youth workers, chaplains and others involved in Christian ministry to be aware of the core beliefs of the major world religions and to develop a sensitive understanding of potential points of contact with believers from other faiths.	
Prescribed text(s)	Barrett, S. (2006). <i>The New Lion Handbook: The World's Religions</i> . Oxford: Lion Publishing. <i>or</i> Morreall, J. & Sonn, T. (2012). <i>The Religion Toolkit: A Complete Guide to Religious Studies</i> . Chichester: Blackwell Publishing.	

<p>Recommended readings</p>	<p>Books</p> <p>Andrews, D. (2013). <i>Bismillah – Christian/Muslim Ramadan Reflections</i>. Melbourne: Mosaic.</p> <p>Burnett, D. (2000). <i>World of the spirits: A Christian perspective on traditional and folk religions</i>. London: Monarch Books.</p> <p>Cotham, P.C. (2008). <i>One world, many neighbours: A Christian perspective on worldviews</i>. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press.</p> <p>Corduan, W. (2002). <i>A tapestry of faiths: The common threads between Christianity and world religions</i>. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.</p> <p>Cornille, C. (2008). <i>The Im-Possibility of Inter-religious dialogue</i>. Downers Grove, IL: The Crossroad Publishing Company.</p> <p>Dickson, J. (2004). <i>A spectator's guide to world religions: An introduction to the big five</i>. Sydney: Blue Bottle Books.</p> <p>Gwynne, P. (2008). <i>World Religions in Practise: A Comparative Introduction</i>. London UK: Blackwell Publishing.</p> <p>Hecht, R.D. & Biondo V.F. (Ed) (2012). <i>Religion and Culture: Contemporary Practices and Perspectives</i>. Santa Barbara, CA: Fortress Press.</p> <p>Jupp, J. (Ed) (2009). <i>The Encyclopaedia of Religion in Australia</i>. Melbourne: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>O'Donnell, K. (2006). <i>Inside World Religions: An Illustrated Guide</i>. Oxford: Lion Publishing.</p> <p>Richardson, D. (2005). <i>Eternity In Their Hearts</i>. Ventura: Regal Books.</p> <p>Tacey, D. (2003). <i>The spirituality revolution: The emergence of contemporary spirituality</i>. Sydney: Harper Collins.</p> <p>Yong, A. (2003). <i>Beyond The Impasse: Toward A Pneumatological Theology of Religions</i>. Carlisle: Paternoster Press.</p> <p>Journals and Periodicals</p> <p>Journal of Religious Studies</p> <p>Journal of Missiology</p> <p>On-line Resources</p> <p>www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/</p> <p>www.togetherforhumanity.org.au/</p> <p>www.christianmuslimforum.org/</p> <p>www.acommonword.com</p> <p>www.youthencounter.org.uk</p> <p>www.kitab.org.uk</p> <p>Religion and Ethics Report – Radio National www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/religionandethicsreport/</p> <p>Encounter – Radio National www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/encounter/</p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as <i>The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011</i> (NIV 2011) or <i>The Holy Bible: New King James Version</i> (NKJV).</p> <p>These and others translations may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p>Specialist resource requirements</p>	<p>Nil</p>

Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Religion 2. Origins and significance of Religion 3. Aspects of Comparative Religion study 4. Traditional religions – Australian Indigenous 5. Hinduism and Sikhism 6. Buddhism and Jainism 7. Asian religions 8. Minority Religions 9. Judaism and Christianity 10. Islam and Sufism 11. Contemporary Emergent Spirituality 12. Inter-faith engagement
Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigated selected beliefs, sacred writings and the most important rituals of the world's major religions; 2. Discussed particular factors which have shaped the present status and location of the major religions; 3. Compared and contrasted different religious faiths, showing understanding of the points of similarity and difference; 4. Related other religions to Christian faith understandings, showing awareness of potential points of engagement as well as potential points of issue; 5. Reflected on the human need (or not) for a religious experience; 6. Critically reflected on their own engagement with the beliefs and rituals of others; and 7. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard: with special attention to design elements, grammars, usage, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Essay Word Length/Duration: 1500 words Weighting: 40% Learning Outcomes: 1-7 Assessed: Week 8</p> <p>Task 2: Reflective Paper Word Length/Duration: 2500 words Weighting: 60% Learning Outcomes: 1-7 Assessed: Week 13</p>
Unit summary	<p>Evangelical Christians have traditionally been interested in other religions in the context of missionary activities in foreign countries. However, in contemporary multicultural Australia, being able to dialogue with others is also vital to the maintenance of a healthy society. This unit assists students to start the process of developing the understanding needed to have this dialogue.</p>