This course will provide a general explanation and comparison of the world's major Eastern religions and philosophies. It will include critical analysis of the principal philosophies and related religious beliefs of the East, including Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism. Particular attention is given to understanding sacred literature in its historical context to better appreciate the relevant beliefs.
PROGRAM LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:

Evaluate philosophical concepts as they pertain within and outside of the discipline and across cultures and belief systems.

COURSE LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:

1. Describe essential concepts in Hinduism, including creation, nature of self or Atman nature of reality, Reincarnation, and Karma
2. Describe essential concepts in Buddhism, including Sunyata as highest state, ox herding pictures, study of sesshin, and enlightenment
3. Describe essential concepts in Taoism, such as the theory of Yin/Yang, interdependent co-related causes, the way of
4. Describe essential concepts in other Eastern Religions and Philosophies, such as Confucianism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Zoroastrianism.
5. Understand selected texts through close analytical reading.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Interpret selected texts through close analytical reading.
2. Describe essential concepts in Hinduism, including creation, nature of self or Atman nature of reality, Reincarnation, and Karma
3. Describe essential concepts in Taoism, such as the theory of Yin/Yang, interdependent co-related causes, the way of
4. Describe essential concepts in Buddhism, including Sunyata as highest state, ox herding pictures, study of sesshin, and enlightenment
5. Describe essential concepts in other Eastern Religions and Philosophies, such as Confucianism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Zoroastrianism.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

A. Hinduism: Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita
B. Taoism: Tao Te Ching, way of living
C. Buddhism: Sunyata, ox-herding pictures, analysis of Sesshin, Mahayana/Theravada differences, Lotus Sutra.
D. Other Eastern Religions/Philosophies, especially Confucianism

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lecture:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

Lecture, discussion, group work, in-class assignments.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Assignments

Core religious texts, commentaries on religious texts, popular books (ie, Siddhartha) that explain key concepts.

Out-of-class Assignments

Readings, papers, activities.
Writing Assignments

Tests, essays, research paper, quizzes, final.

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:
Final Exam
Short Quizzes
Written Assignments
Essay Examinations
Report
Projects (ind/group)

Demonstration of Critical Thinking:
Analyze philosophical writing. Compare and contrast philosophical positions.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:
Tests, essays, research paper, quizzes, final.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

TextBooks:

Other:
1. Open Educational Resources, especially Public Domain religious texts.

LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include: Print Materials
Online Materials
Services

Comments:

Attachments:

[Attached Files]