

**COURSE SYLLABUS & SCHEDULE**  
**RELS 100 – CRN 10814 – Fall 2013**  
**RELIGIONS OF THE MODERN WORLD**

MS. JACOBSON

**Imperial Valley College**

Instructor: Rev. Mrs. Suzi Jacobson

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Meetings: Wednesday evening – Room 2727 6:30-9:40 PM

I Course Description

RELS 100 is an introduction to various contemporary religions of the world. We will study the basic beliefs, history and traditions of the world's major religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Sikhism. Objectivity and impartiality are important characteristics of our study. We seek to *understand* the world's religions rather than evaluate them. Required texts:

- **Living Religions**, by Mary Pat Fisher – Pearson/Prentice Hall Publisher, 2013
- **God Is Not One**, Stephen Prothero, New York – Harper One, 2011

II Course Requirements

- Students are expected to attend all lectures, arrive on time, and to remain for the entire class period.
- Students who miss class are responsible for material covered in their absence, including other students' presentations.

III Course Development and Grading

There will be short written assignments, homework, quizzes a *research paper/project (P&P)*, a midterm exam and a comprehensive final exam.

- P&Ps will be due a various times throughout the semester.
- Both a written paper and a GROUP presentation in class will be required.

Grade Structure	
Class participation & attendance	10%
Writing Assignments & Homework	25%
Research P & P	20%
Quizzes	25%
Midterm Exam	10%
Final Exam	10%

IV Grade Distribution

Course grade will be a percentage of points earned divided by points available. A 94-100%; A- 90-93%; B+ 87-89%; B 84-86%; B- 80-83%; C+ 77-79%; C 74-76; C- 70-73%; D 60-69%; F less than or equal to 59%.

V IVC Drop Policy

**A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class may be dropped by the instructor immediately following that class.** Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. Instructors are expected to take a student's attendance record into account in computing grades. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences after the close of registration have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week. If you stop attending class and intend to drop, **it is your responsibility to drop the class!**

VI Academic Integrity

Academic integrity includes a commitment neither to engage in nor tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include (but are not limited to) cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another person's work as one's own, using Internet sources without citation, stealing examinations, tampering with the academic work of another student, and facilitating other students' acts of academic dishonesty. *Sanctions for breaches of academic integrity may range from F for the assignment to F for the course.*

VII Student Learning Objectives *At the conclusion of the course students will be able to:*

1. Identify the origin, characteristic beliefs, practices and terminology unique to the world's five major religions and indigenous sacred ways. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Identify and discuss the nature of religious revelation and interpretation of sacred texts. (ILO2, ILO4)
3. Recognize the relationship between religion and culture and the relevance of religious belief and experience to modern life and the human condition. (ILO2, ILO5)

VIII Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) office as soon as possible. The DSPS office is located in the Mel Wendrick Access Center (Building 2100) (760) 355-6313 or (760) 355-4174 (TDD)



**Cell Phones**, pagers and/or other disruptive devices must be turned off and placed out of site for the duration of the class. Violation of this policy will result in **an immediate pop quiz for the entire class.**

