

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

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TITLE: Theology of Religions
&
Interfaith Dialogue

TERM F

TERM: 20109 Sept-Dec 2010

PROFESSOR: Fr. Ephrem Nariculam

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the major religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam in details and also the others in brief) of the world – their historical setting, basic principles, significant features, Holy Scriptures, theology, spirituality etc – and a Christian perspective on them with an urgency to enter into interfaith dialogue and peaceful coexistence. There will be a focus on the Roman Catholic teachings on world religions and interfaith dialogue.

CLASS OBJECTIVES: The students will be informed of the World religions in general thus helping them to develop a sense of tolerance and respect for all people in the world. This knowledge will enable the students to deepen one’s Christian faith and commitment for an integral missionary orientation and pastoral involvement in the pluralistic context of many religions. The course also will help them prudently enter into interfaith dialogue and to live in peaceful coexistence with the people of other faiths knowing the cultural ethos, doctrines and customs of different religions in the world.

PREREQUISITES: Readings, tutorials and work sheet will be explained in the class.

REQUIRED TEXTS: The texts for reference will be brought to the notice of the students in the class.

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:

Tutorials, Discussion and Work Sheet	30%
Reflective Papers (4x10 - one page each)	40%
Final Exam (written)	30%

ABRIDGED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Books:

BOCHENSKI, Joseph M. *The Logic of Religion*. New York University Press, NY: 1965.

EARHART, Byron. (ed.), *Religious Traditions of the World*. Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1992.

ELIADE, Mircea. & KITAGAWA, Joseph M. *The History of Religions*. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago: 1970.

ELIADE, Mircea. *The Quest: History and Meaning in Religion*. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago: 1969.

FALLON, Timothy. & RILEY, Philip Boo. *Religion & Culture*. State University of New York Press, Albany: 1987.

- HONEYGOSKY, Stephen. (ed.) *Religion & Spirituality*. Twenty-Third Publications, New London: 1989.
- KRAMER, Kenneth. *World Scriptures*. Paulist Press, NJ: 1986.
- MADURO, Otto. Barr, R. Robert. (tr.), *Religion and Social Conflict*. Orbis Books, NY: 1979.
- OXTOBY, Williard. G. (ed.), *World Religions: Western Traditions*. Oxford University Press, NY: 1996.
- PANIKKAR, Raimundo. *The Interreligious Dialogue*. Paulist Press, NY: 1978
- PARRINDER, Geoffrey. *Encountering World Religions*. T & T Clark Ltd. Edinburg: 1987.
- S. Radhakrishnan. *Religion and Culture*. Hind Pocket Books, Delhi: 1968.
- SCHNEIDER, Louis. *Religion, Culture & Society*. (ed.), John Wiley & Sons Inc., NY: 1966.
- SLATER, Peter. (ed.), *Religion and Culture in Canada*. Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion, Canada: 1977.
- SWIDLER, Leonard. & MOJZES, Paul. *The Study of Religion in an Age of Global Dialogue*, Temple University Press, Philadelphia: 2000.
- WACH, Joachim. *Sociology of Religion*. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago: 1971.
- WASH, Joachim. *The Comparative Study of Religions*. Columbia University Press, NY: 1958.

Other Sources:

- The Encyclopedia of Religions*.
- Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. *Dialogue and Proclamation*. 1991.
- Vat. II. *Nostra Aetate*. 1965.
- Paul VI, *Dignitatis Humane*, 1965.