

World Religions

Class Syllabus and Procedures

Instructor: Mr. Camey

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Class Website: mrcameysocialstudies.weebly.com

Prep: A4/B2

Course Description: This class will serve as a seminar on religions around the world. The overall purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding perspective on other religions that may or may not be their own. Keeping this in mind, this course will be taught through a “neutral” lens, meaning that students will be learning about the characteristics and dimensions of each religion without bias. The end result will be that the students will leave this class with a better understanding and a new perspective of the many faiths practiced by other peoples from around the world.

Required Materials:

- Textbook- *World Religions: A Voyage of Discovery*
- 3-Ring Binder
- Loose leaf paper/college ruled notebooks
- Planners
- Pens/pencils
- Colored pencils/markers (project days)
- Jump-Drive/Thumb Drive
- Any additional academic accessories the student/parent finds helpful

Class Expectations:

- Students will conduct themselves in a **MATURE MANNER** while in class.
- Students will take **RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR LEARNING** and be **ON TIME** for each class period.
- Students will come to class **FULLY PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE**.
- Students will come to class **RESTED and WITH POSITIVE ATTITUDES CONDUCIVE TO LEARNING**.
- Students will **SHOW RESPECT** for their **CLASSMATES and their TEACHER**.

Course Continuum

1. What is Religion?	4. Buddhism	7. Confucianism	10. Shinto	13. Christianity
2. Primal Religions	5. Jainism	8. Taoism	11. Iranian, Greek, and Roman Religions	14. Islam
3. Hinduism	6. Sikhism	9. Zen Buddhism	12. Judaism	15. Religion in the Modern World

Reading:

There will be reading assignments for each chapter. It is important that the student read the assigned section(s) in their textbook so that they may effectively contribute to class and class discussion.

Assignments:

Assignments will vary from book work to written reflections on items covered in class. Assignments that are to be typewritten should be done in the following manner: Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced, 1" margins. Class time to use SCHS computers is a **privilege**, not a right. Any students caught abusing this privilege or abusing technology as defined by the student handbook will have their privileges removed. There will be occasions where the use of school computers will be allowed, but this will not always be the case. Students will normally have access to the SCHS computers before school, after school, and during their study halls. Handouts and reading assignments can be handwritten. **IF I CANNOT READ THE ASSIGNMENT, I WILL NOT GRADE IT AND THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE AN INCOMPLETE (0) FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT.**

Papers, Projects, and Reports:

Students will be writing reports or completing projects on the various religions studied in class. This means they will be researching different figures or aspects of the religions and will be expected to demonstrate their understanding and comprehension of the religion that is being studied. These papers/projects/reports will be between 3-5 pages long and be worth 50 points. Follow the guidelines for each paper/project/report as stated on the respective handout or as they are mentioned on the class website.

Tests/Quizzes:

It will be necessary for students to be able to prove that they are properly learning and understanding the material presented in class. Bearing this in mind, there will be tests and quizzes given during and at the end of each chapter.

Late Work:

It is paramount that the students in this class keep up with their assignments and stay on schedule with the rest of the class. If you know that you are going to be absent for an event, such as a sporting event, vacation, field trip, etc. be sure you **TURN IN YOUR WORK AHEAD OF TIME, NOT AFTER.** Homework is due at the start of class and should be ready to be handed in to the teacher. Students who submit assignments after class has started will have their assignment considered late. Assignments turned in late are worth a maximum of 50% of the original points until our next class period, after which no late work will be accepted.

NOTE: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE TEACHER. I DO NOT NEGOTIATE FOR LATE WORK.

Electronics/Cellphone/Chromebook Policy

STUDENTS MUST AGREE WITH THE ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. With the incorporation of Chromebooks into the classroom, students no longer need their cell phones for email correspondence. As such, phones are to be put away in lockers or bags and not out on desks. Phones that are out will be confiscated, taken to the office, and a demerit will be written.

Chromebook use is a privilege, not a right. Students are to be on Chromebooks when the teacher instructs them to get them out to work on, this will ensure class time is being used productively and that student Chromebooks retain their battery's charge for classwork. Any student caught misusing their Chromebook will receive a demerit and lose their laptop privileges until the teacher decides to reinstate them.

Grading Policy:

This class follows the grading policy as presented in the school handbook. Work shall be evaluated for quality and graded according to the following values:

Grade	Value	Grade	Value
A	100-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-68
B	86-83	D	67-66
B-	82-80	D-	65
C+	79-77	F	64 & Below

Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism is the use of another person's written or oral words, products, or ideas and **INTENTIONALLY OR ACCIDENTALLY**, presenting them as your own. This is not only unethical but illegal. **ANY** work that has been determined to be plagiarism will be given an automatic demerit, F grade, and a possible refusal of a faculty letter of recommendation. More information on this topic can be found in the SCHS Handbook.

Please sign and date below (student and parent) to indicate that you have hereby read and agreed to follow the rules and procedures presented in this syllabus.

Any questions can be directed to my email address: ccamey@scspk12.org

Please read the closing agreement, print your names below, and sign on the line:

I _____ (parent) and _____ (student) hereby certify that by signing and dating this document, that I have read and agree to follow the rules and procedures of the classroom presented in this syllabus.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Movies and Permissions:

Over the course of the semester, there will be showings of documentaries and films that are relevant to material covered in class. A majority of the videos and clips that will be shown in class are documentaries that have been approved for all audiences on television. A few films will be shown in class that will reflect aspects of certain religions. Films may be cut from the class due to schedule conflicts. Among these films are the following:

- Seven Years in Tibet (Buddhism)
- Princess Monoke (Shinto)
- Ben Hurr (Rome/Christianity)
- Kingdom of Heaven (the crusades)

By signing this syllabus, the parents hereby grant permission for the film to be viewed by their student(s). Parents who do not wish for their students to view certain films should indicate on the syllabus which ones they will not be allowed to watch (+/-, check mark/x, etc.) and the instructor will see that their wishes are honored by finding another activity for the students to work on for the duration of the film's showing.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____