

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is divided into two sections and both examine conceptions of death and the afterlife. The first (and longer) section examines conceptions of death and the afterlife from the perspective of various religious traditions from around the world. Topics that will be explored in this section include: conceptions of a soul (if any), what happens to a person at death, funerary rites, various conceptions of a/the ultimate reality (theistic, monistic, and so forth), notions of salvation and/or liberation, judgment, and various conceptions time (e.g., linear or cyclical). The second section will explore how some of these religious perspectives are reflected in popular culture and spiritual movements. This section will focus on views of reincarnation and debates over the topic of near-death experiences.

Course Objectives






Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:















- Provide a background for each religious tradition to contextualize notions of death and the afterlife.
- Recognize basic conceptions of death and the afterlife according various Western and Eastern religious traditions (Hindu, Buddhist, Chinese, Japanese Indigenous, Christian, Judaic, and Islamic traditions) as exemplified through sacred texts (written or oral), ritual practices and popular beliefs.
- Identify a few funerary practices associated with different religious traditions.
- Understand relationships between conceptions of death and the afterlife and key doctrinal positions maintained by the respective religious tradition.

Required Text

- Bregman, Lucy ed. *Death & Dying in World Religions*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2009.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Sun Jan 12, 2020	 Discuss Hinduism (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030503)	due by 11:59pm
	 Introduce Yourself (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030502)	due by 11:59pm
	 Syllabus Quiz (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030491)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jan 17, 2020	 Discuss Buddhism (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030501)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jan 24, 2020	 Quiz 01 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
	/4030486)	
Fri Jan 31, 2020	 Reflection Paper 1 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030504)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 6, 2020	 Discuss East Asian Traditions (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030500)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Feb 11, 2020	 Quiz 02 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030493)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 16, 2020	 Discuss Indigenous Traditions (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030499)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 22, 2020	 Discuss Christianity (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030498)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 1, 2020	 Reflection Paper 2 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030505)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 11, 2020	 Quiz 03 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030488)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 17, 2020	 Discuss Judaism (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030497)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 23, 2020	 Discuss Islam (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030496)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 29, 2020	 Quiz 04 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030490)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Apr 4, 2020	 Discuss Reincarnation (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030495)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 10, 2020	 Discuss Contemporary Culture (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030494)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 15, 2020	 Quiz 05 (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030489)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 24, 2020	 Extra Credit Quiz (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030513)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details
Wed Apr 29, 2020	 Final (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/387461/assignments/4030487) due by 11:59pm

