

Three Rivers Community College
Humanities and Social Science Department
PHL K151-30520 World Religions
Professor: Dr. Sabrina D. MisirHiralall
Fall 2019

Tentative Syllabus

Class Meeting Time: ONLINE BLACKBOARD

Class Location: ONLINE BLACKBOARD

Office Location: You must schedule an appointment to meet with me. We can meet on Zoom, Goggle Video Chat, or Skype.

Office Hours: Appointment Only

Email: SMisirHiralall@trcc.commnet.edu,
MisirHiralall.S@gmail.com

Course Description

Prerequisite: ENG K101 or ENG* K101S placement or completion of ENG* K096 with a "C" grade or better.*

“This course will begin by providing students with a philosophical framework that will be used to understand the world’s major religious traditions. What is religion? How do each of the traditions considered illustrate the knowledge of myth, practice, experience, and community and how do all of these elements come together in the construction of a worldview particular to each? We will focus on Indigenous religious traditions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. We may also examine other religious expressions including emerging visions. Many topics will be interwoven into our studies including theistic, non-theistic, mystical, and devotional approaches, theological problems such as theodicy, as well as many social and ethical issues of current concern, particularly the role of women in traditional and emerging expressions. Course fulfills International/Intercultural Requirement.”

CAMPUS AND CLASS POLICIES

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Academic dishonesty is any attempt by the student to gain academic advantage through dishonest means, to submit, as the student’s own, work which has not been done by the student or to give improper aid to another student in the completion of an assignment. Such dishonesty would include, but is not limited to: submitting as the student’s own a project, paper, report, test, or speech copied from, partially copied, or paraphrased from the work of another (whether the source is printed, under copyright, or in manuscript form). Credit must be given for words quoted or paraphrased. The rules apply to any academic dishonesty, whether the work is graded or ungraded, group or individual, written or oral.

Non-discrimination Policy

“Three Rivers Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the basis of veteran status or criminal records. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies.”

Kenneth Saad
Three Rivers Community College
574 New London Turnpike
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 215-9319

Sexual Misconduct Policy

“Three Rivers Community College strongly encourages all students to report any incidents of sexual misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and sexual assault. Students have the right to the prompt and fair resolution of all claims, and the College will preserve the confidentiality of all who report to the fullest extent possible and allowed by law. College employees will explain the limits of confidentiality before information about the incident is revealed. To report sexual misconduct, or to learn more about your options, please contact the Title IX Coordinator. If you need immediate, confidential assistance, please call the Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut hotline at 860-437-7766, Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut Maria Krug, Title IX Coordinator Hotline: (860) 437-7766.”

For more information, reach out to:

Three Rivers Community
Office: (860) 442-0604 College, (860) 215-9208
78 Howard Street, 2nd Floor 574 New London Turnpike
New London, CT 06320 Norwich, CT 06360

Digication Statement

“As a student you will maintain an online learning portfolio using a college-designed template in Digication. Through this electronic tool you will have the opportunity to monitor your own growth in college-wide learning. It may even help you determine a major that is best suited to you. You will be able to keep and maintain your learning portfolio after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. If your work is selected and reviewed for assessment purposes, it will remain anonymous and private. Digication provides a ‘place’ where you will connect your learning from the classroom, college, and life in general. Sometimes when you review all of the work you have done and think about it, you end up learning something different and perhaps unexpected. Please review your course outlines to determine what assignments to upload into the TRCC Digication template and please post your own choices, as well. Have fun in learning! More information on Digication is located at:

<https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/learningresources/eportfolio-digication/digication-add-and-edit-courses-listed-in-digication/>

If you are uncertain of what is expected in your syllabus, contact your program coordinator or department chair for guidance and/or relevant samples.”

Disability Services

Contact the following individuals:

Elizabeth Willcox
(Students with Physical, Medical or Sensory Disabilities)
860-215-9289
ewillcox@threeivers.edu

Matt Liscum (Students with Learning Disabilities, Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder, and Psychiatric Disabilities)
(860) 215-9265
mliscum@threeivers.edu

“Students with a documented disability are provided supportive service and accommodations to assist them with their academic objectives. Services are strictly confidential. Disability services may include individualized accommodations, advising, advocacy, counseling, technical assistant and referral information. For questions regarding disability support services, please go to:

[https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/student-services/disability-services/.](https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/student-services/disability-services/)”

Attendance

- As a team player, you are expected to fully participate in the online class.
- If you require accommodations due to a disability, contact the TRCC Disability Services. Visit <https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/student-services/disability-services/> for more information.
- Check the TRCC home page for emergency announcements. I suggest you also sign up for TRCC's myCommNet Alerts, which is a system that provides text alerts and emails in the event that there is an emergency on campus. Visit http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/div_it/educationaltechnology/Tutorials/myCommNetAlert/MIR3.html for more information.

Emailing

When you email me, **you must sign your name in the email and include the course number (PHL K101-51046)**. Also, remember that my last name is Dr. MisirHiralall and NOT Hiralall. I respond to all emails within 24-48 hours. I respond on Monday to all emails received on Fridays in the afternoon. If you do not receive a response within the time frame that I have outlined, then you may assume that I did not receive your email.

Required Readings

Please check Blackboard for readings that I will post.

In addition purchase the following book:

Text: World Religions: The Great Faiths Explored and Explained
Author: John Bowker
Publish Date: 2006
ISBN: 978-0-7566-1772-1

The book may be purchased at the University Bookstore. Also, you may find a less expensive copy at www.allbookstores.com. However, if you choose to order the text from the website, be wary of the time frame of delivery. The text is required for this class and must be purchased. You may also rent the text.

Writing Guidelines for Take Home Assignments

- Type all work in 12 point Times New Roman Font.
- Double space
- Margins should be only one inch.
- Keep a copy of all your assignments. This includes drafts as well as revised work.
- ***TRCC has several computer labs for students to access. Visit <https://www.trcc.commnet.edu/learning-resources/tutoring-tasc/trcc-computer-labs/> for more information. You will need to bring your own flash drive or hard drive to save your work. It is recommended to save multiple drafts to ensure that your work is not lost.

Online Course Load

This is a three credit online course. Therefore, you are expected to devote at least three hours a week to this course in addition to accommodating for your homework and projects. Thus, plan your week accordingly. I suggest that you block at least three hours a week in your schedule for this class. If you are consistent with your work for this class, then you should not encounter difficulty keeping up with assignments and deadlines. Since this is an online class, you are responsible for managing the following with deadlines in mind.

- Completion of Readings
- Viewing of Media Clips
- Participation in the Weekly Discussion Forum
- Completion of All Projects

It is imperative that you understand how to manage your time efficiently in an online class.

Here is a sample schedule that you might like to maintain for the purposes of this class. You will need to modify this weekly schedule to accommodate for the first and last week. You will also need to plan study

block time during the weeks that you have exams or an assignment due. Generally, you may find this schedule helpful.

Monday – Post main post to the Discussion Board.

Tuesday – Post two comments on other students' posts.

Wednesday – Begin readings for the following week.

Thursday – Review Discussion Board and complete readings for the following week.

Friday – View media clips for following week. Study. Work on course projects.

Projects

I. Discussion Board (12%)

You are required to post and respond to a comment each week on the Discussion Board. Discussion Board posts for the week are due **by Monday nights (11:59 pm)** and two comments on other students' posts are due **by Wednesday nights (11:59 pm)**. The Discussion Board is set to close at that time. You should review the Discussion Board on Thursday.

II. Exams (30%)

You will have three online exams for this course. The exams are composed of multiple-choice and true and false questions. These exams are set to open and close at a particular time on a certain date. During the time that the exam is open, you must log onto Blackboard. You have a certain length of time to complete the exam. To do well, you must study all the readings and media clips. You should know the main points in the readings and the media clips. You should be able to recall important facts. For a tutorial on how to take a test on Blackboard, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36kDE4lvRmI&index=1&list=PLontYaReEU1seUE3ACG3sEc3zR7Br7URU>. This is a general Blackboard tutorial.

III. Religious Exploration and Interview Project (24%)

Throughout the semester, you will learn about many different religions. Select a religion to explore. Research temples in your geographical location where religious worship occurs. Contact an individual from the temple. Arrange to speak to the religious clergy of the temple. Arrange for a walk-through of the temple with the individual. Ask the individual to explain to you the set-up of the temple. In addition, ask the individual to discuss what it means to practice this religion in America. Does the individual have an "us" vs. "them" mentality or does the individual believe in inclusivity of all people regardless of religious background? Ask directly about this. Offer a critique of the interview. You will share your insights on the Discussion Forum with your peers who will offer comments to you. In addition, you will submit your Religious Exploration and Interview Project in essay form through the Assignments tab. I suggest you begin working on this project immediately when the semester begins. It may take you time to contact individuals, arrange the interview, and arrange a visit to the temple.

This paper should be a succinct two-page paper. (See writing guidelines as mentioned earlier in the syllabus.) You must be concise.

IV. Book Circles and Critical Book Review Project (24%)

Book Circles - During the semester, each student will sign up to read a text independently. After reading the text, each student will participate in a Book Circles discussion forum.

Critical Book Review - EACH student will submit a critical book review of the book that they chose to read for the Book Circles. This is NOT a group assignment. Students will write a short essay (750 words) to critically review the book. This is a formal paper where students will summarize and critique the thesis of the text. The book review should be similar in style to book reviews found in scholarly journals such as the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. Students are encouraged to browse samples of book reviews through the campus library's databases.

Texts we may use for this project include:

- Clatterbuck, M. (2017). *Crow Jesus: Personal stories of Native Religious Belonging*. Oklahoma: Oklahoma University Press.
- Curtis, E. E. (2017). *The Practice of Islam in America: An Introduction*. New York: NYU Press.
- Hoff, Benjamin (2019, 1982). *Tao of Pooh*. Boston, Massachusetts: Dutton Books.
- Knitter, Paul (2013). *Without Buddha I Could Not Be a Christian*. London: Oneworld Publications.
- Kogan, M. S. (2012). *Opening the Covenant: A Jewish Theology of Christianity*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- MisirHiralall, S. D. (2017). *Confronting Orientalism: A Self-study of Educating Through Hindu dance*. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.

You will receive more details about this project during the semester.

V. Class Participation (10% total)

Syllabus Quiz (2.5 %)

You must display knowledge of this syllabus. Therefore, you will need to complete a Syllabus Quiz. (See the instructions in the abovementioned Exams Section.) I ask that you retake the quiz as many times as you need to until you score 100%. It is very crucial that you understand the operation of this online class.

Dialogical Discussions (5%)

We will work together as a part of a classroom community to engage in sensitive discussion topics. It is imperative that you exercise discussion etiquette. Profanity is not permitted in a scholarly environment. Also, it is important that you allow yourself to grow philosophically. See the "Classroom Facilitation Handouts" online for more information. I do grade your ability to engage in respectful, civil, discussions that exercise discussion etiquette. I expect that The Touchstones document will serve as a guide for our class.

Learning Logs (2.5 %)

Here, I ask that you reflect on your semester in this class. Think about what you learned. Provide evidence of your comprehension of class. Reflect on the course structure. Submit a one-two page reflection to summarize your overall learning experience.

Important University Dates

Aug 26	Registration deadline and last day to drop classes for full tuition refund
Aug 27	Classes begin, add and drop periods begin
Sep 2	Labor Day - college closed and

	last day for students to add a class - online (Aug 30 <u>in person</u>)
Sep 3-6	Welcome Week
Sep 9	Last day to drop classes and partial tuition refund
Sep 17	Constitution Day observed (classes in session)
Sep 20	Professional Day (classes in session)
Sep 24	Last day to select audit option
Oct 21	Mid-term Grades Due
Oct 22	Reading Day
Nov 4	Advising day (classes in session) Registration begins for Winter '19 Intersession and registration begins for Spring '20 Semester for Continuing Degree-Seeking Students and New Students with V
Nov 5	Advising day (classes in session) Last day to withdraw from classes, last day to select pass/fail option, and last day to submit incomplete work from and Summer '19
Nov 8	Registration begins for New Student and Non Degree-Seeking Student Registration for Winter '19 Intersession Semester, and last day to apply for spring graduation (May '20)
Nov 27	College open - no classes in session
Nov 28-Dec 1	Thanksgiving recess
Dec 15	Last day of 15 Week Session
Dec 17	Final grades due to Registrar's office (by noon)
Dec 20	Grades available on web
Dec 23	Semesters end for CC
Dec 25	Christmas Day - college closed

Tentative Class Schedule

The tentative class activities and writing assignments are listed below. **This course schedule is subject to change depending upon the needs of the class and any unforeseen circumstances.**

*Please use a reading strategy to read all readings before they are presented in class.

***Reminder: Discussion Board posts for the week are due **by Monday nights (11:59 pm)** and two comments on other students' posts are due **by Wednesday nights (11:59 pm)**. The Discussion Forum is set to close at that time.

PROGRESSION ONE: COURSE INTRODUCTION

Week of August 27

Focus: Course Overview

- Read the syllabus.
- Review the Touchstones

Discussion Board Prompt:

- Introduce yourself to the class.
- Which Touchstone do you think is the most important to keep in mind throughout the semester?

Sign up for Book Circles.

Syllabus Quiz Due

Week of September 3

Focus: Sharing Our Backgrounds

Discussion Board Prompt:

- Do you consider yourself to be religious? Why or why not?
- Is your family religious? Elaborate on this.
- Did religion play a role in your personal development?
- How can you work towards learning about religion in a manner that helps you to grow personally and also consider the needs of others?
- Have you ever felt that people did not understand your religion?
- What do you wish people who do not practice your religion would consider?
- Are you familiar with a diversity of religious traditions? Do you believe that you are religiously literate?

Week of September 9

Focus: Religious Literacy

Readings:

- Bowker, D. (2006). What is Religion? (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 10-17). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- Website Reading: What is Religious Literacy?
<https://rlp.hds.harvard.edu/our-approach/what-is-religious-literacy>
- Website Reading: Four Principles
<https://rlp.hds.harvard.edu/our-approach/four-principles>

Media Clip:

- Religion for Breakfast YouTube Channel with Andrew Henry
What is religion?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5KHDR8jdbA>

Discussion Board Prompt:

- According to Bowker and also Henry, what is religion?
- What do you believe religion is? What leads you to believe this?
- What is religious literacy?
- Why is religious literacy important especially in this great nation?

Week of September 16

Focus: Ancient Religions and Native Religions

Readings:

- Bowker, D. (2006). Ancient Religions (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 10-17). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- Heelas, P. (2006). Native Religions (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained*(pp. 196-207). New York, NY: DK Publishing.

Media Clip:

- W. Kamau Bell United Shades of America
Season 2 Episode 3: Kamau Bell: Standing Rock Changed
How I See America
<https://www.cnn.com/2017/05/13/opinions/standing-rock-united-shades-kamau-bell-opinion/index.html>

Discussion Board Prompt:

- Compare and contrast ancient religions and native religions.
- Why does the author claim that myths are important?
- Do you believe myths are important to acknowledge? What leads you to believe this?

PROGRESSION TWO: EASTERN RELIGIONS

Week of September 23

Focus: Hinduism

Readings:

- Elgood, H. (2006). Hinduism (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 18-43). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- MisirHiralall, S. D. (2017). Chapter 5: Religious Epistemology with a Focus on the Ramayana. In *Confronting Orientalism: A self-study of educating through Hindu dance* (pp. 143-166). Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.

Discussion Board Prompt:

- How does Elgood portray Hinduism?
- How do I (MisirHiralall) portray Hinduism?
- What do I (MisirHiralall) claim about religious epistemology?
- How do I (MisirHiralall) confront claims about the Ramayana as mythology?
- What is the historical account of the Ramayana?
- What are your general thoughts about religious epistemology as a form of knowing?

Week of September 30

Focus: Jainism and Sikhism

Readings:

- Dundas, P. (2006). Jainism (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 44-57). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- Nesbitt, E. (2006). Sikhism (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 82-95). New York, NY: DK Publishing.

Documentary Clip:

- W. Kamau Bell United Shades of America
Season 3 Episode 2: Sikhs in America
<https://go.cnn.com/?type=episode&id=2132955>

Discussion Board Prompt:

- Compare and contrast Jainism and Sikhism.
- What is the role of asceticism in the religions?
- The author describes traditional temples. What about Jain and Sikh temples in America? What do you think of these temples in terms of negotiating religion and culture across borders?

Week of October 7

Focus: Buddhism

Readings:

- Harris, I. (2006). Buddhism (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 58-81). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- Cronk, G. (2001). Early Buddhist Texts. In *Readings in Philosophy: Eastern & Western Sources* (pp. 39-60). Plymouth, Michigan: Hayden McNeil.
- Battles, A., & Battles, A. (2014, August 24). I'm Not Religious, But I am a Little Buddhist. Retrieved from https://www.huffpost.com/entry/im-not-religious-but-i-am_b_5526181?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAEcu aU2i0xwni79k6jFRQ0hoc7TmV3L1ncTunO-MJynQlWEermJWmiXeT277qn0cfZXuQEqlXv3rG7x-rafBrPdnxI2obeaOVFNpoY7Sou51vOyoV8KXfqqSXtpxlyhV UcxEiawGb4urOYD6WMvN-oSqrnPR6BILtFenR2obVqJK

Discussion Board Prompt:

- What does Buddhism focus on?
- What are some of the different types of Buddhism?
- What is the Middle Path?
- What are the Four Noble Truths?
- How does Buddhist philosophy impact many secular people today who may not be Buddhist?

Exam One Due

Week of October 14

Focus: Chinese and Japanese Religions

Readings:

- McFarlane, S. (2006). Chinese Religions (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 98-109). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- Chilson, C. (2006). Japanese Religions (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 110-121). New York, NY: DK Publishing.

Media Clip:

- Religion For Breakfast YouTube Channel with Andrew Henry How Japanese Religion Influenced Pokeman <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1c7pZIXcU0>

Discussion Board Prompt:

- Why does the author describe Confucianism and Taoism as Chinese religions and Shinto as a Japanese religion?
- Do you need to be in China or Japan to practice these religions?
- What does this mean for Chinese Americans and Japanese Americans?
- Can Americans practice any of these religions?

PROGRESSION THREE: WESTERN RELIGIONS

Week of October 21

Focus: Judaism

Reading:

- Cohn-Sherbok, L. (2006). Judaism (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 122-147). New York, NY: DK Publishing.

Media Clip:

- Religion For Breakfast YouTube Channel with Andrew Henry When did Judaism and Christianity Part Ways

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDG5U0inNIE>

Discussion Prompt:

- What are some of the key components of Jewish history and Judaism?
- What does Henry claim about how religious belief and religious practice influences religious identity?
- What does Henry claim about when Judaism and Christianity parted ways?

Exam Two Due

Week of October 28

Focus: Christianity

Reading:

- Bowker, M. (2006). Christianity (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 148-173). New York, NY: DK Publishing.

Media Clip:

- W. Kamau Bell Interview on CNN
Kamau Bell: Despite What Franklin Graham Says, LGBT People Can Be Good Christians
<https://www.cnn.com/videos/tv/2019/04/25/lead-kamau-bell-live-united-shades-of-america-jake-tapper.cnn>

Discussion Prompt:

- What are the main components of Christianity according to Bowker?
- What does W. Kamau Bell discuss in the CNN interview about LGBTQ Christians?
- The interview points to how Christianity often intertwines with politics. What do you think about this?

Week of November 4

Focus: Islam

Readings:

- Thomas, D. (2006). Islam (D. Bowker, Ed.). In *World Religions The Great Faiths Explored and Explained* (pp. 174-195). New York, NY: DK Publishing.
- April 17, 2. (2018, April 17). Muslim Americans: Immigrants and U.S. born see life differently. Retrieved from <https://www.pewforum.org/essay/muslims-in-america-immigrants-and-those-born-in-u-s-see-life-differently-in-many-ways/>

Media Clip:

- Religion For Breakfast YouTube Channel with Andrew Henry
Intro to Islam
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qtz4NGzpOco>

Discussion Prompt:

- How does the Five Pillars influence Muslim life? What does Henry and Rashid claim about the Five Pillars?
- What does Henry and Rashid point to about the Quran?
- Why does Henry and Rashid claim that Islam is internally diverse?
- According to the PEW Research Center, how do Muslim immigrants and Muslim born Americans see life as Muslims differently?

Critical Book Review Due, Monday, November 4, 8:00 am

PROGRESSION FOUR: THE HYBRIDITY OF EASTERN AND WESTERN RELIGIONS

Week of November 11	Focus: Orientalism Optional Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Said, E. W. (1979). <i>Introduction</i>. In Orientalism. New York: Vintage Books. Documentary: Edward Said on Orientalism https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVC8EYd_Z_g Discussion Board Prompt: <ul style="list-style-type: none">o What is Orientalism?o How does Orientalism influence Western perspectives of Eastern religions?o Reflect on the religions that you have learned about in this course. Have you Orientalized any of the religions? Did you begin with Orientalized perspectives but then moved away from an Orientalized perspective?o How can you confront Orientalism?
Week of November 18	Book Club Online Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Clatterback, M. (2017). <i>Crow Jesus: Personal stories of Native Religious Belonging</i>. Oklahoma: Oklahoma University Press.o Hoff, Benjamin (2019, 1982). <i>Tao of Pooh</i>. Boston, Massachusetts: Dutton Books.o MisirHiralall, S. D. (2017). <i>Confronting Orientalism: A Self-study of Educating Through Hindu dance</i>. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers.
Week of November 25	Book Club Online Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Curtis, E. E. (2017). <i>The Practice of Islam in America: An Introduction</i>. New York: NYU Press.o Knitter, Paul (2013). <i>Without Buddha I Could Not Be a Christian</i>. London: Oneworld Publications.o Kogan, M. S. (2012). <i>Opening the Covenant: A Jewish Theology of Christianity</i>. New York: Oxford University Press. Exam Three Due, (Extension to December 2 due to Thanksgiving Recess)
Week of December 2	Focus: Religious Exploration and Interview Project Discussion Discussion Board Prompt: <ul style="list-style-type: none">o There is no formal discussion prompt for this week. Instead, students will post their Religious Exploration and Interview Project on the forum as their main post. Students must still offer comments to at least two other students. Religious Exploration and Interview Project Due Monday, December 2, 8:00 am
Monday, December 9	Learning Log Reflections Due, Monday, December 9 at 11:59 pm
December 15	Last Day of Classes

WRITING RUBRIC

Name: _____
Date: _____
Assignment: _____
Grade: _____

As your instructor, I aim to help you work to your potential. This rubric is meant to serve as a guide for you to use to improve your academic work. Also, this rubric will provide you with an understanding of how your grade was determined.

Scoring Guide:

F Unexcused, Unsubmitted Assignments

C	C+	B	B+	A-	A	Comments
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Critical Thinking

You do not engage in critical thinking. Your response is not well-developed.	You engage in some critical thinking, but your response could use some more development.	You engage in high-level critical thinking. There is much evidence of thought and development.	
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Content

You do not focus on the content.	You adequately focus on the content, but could focus more for the purposes of the assignment.	You focus on the content in a manner that is clear and well-developed.	
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Grammar

There were significant grammar issues.	There were few grammar issues.	There were little or no grammar issues.	
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Spelling

There were significant spelling issues.	There were some spelling issues.	There were few or no spelling issues.	
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Punctuation

There were significant punctuation issues.	There were some punctuation issues.	There were few or no punctuation issues.	
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Word Usage

You overuse words such as “and”. You do not vary your word structure.	You adequately vary your word structure.	You vary your word structure in a manner that shows high-level thinking.	
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Transitions

You do not use sentence to sentence transitions and paragraph to paragraph transitions.	You adequately use sentence to sentence transitions and paragraph to paragraph transitions.	You use high-level sentence to sentence transitions and high-level paragraph to paragraph transitions.	
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Format

You did not do any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use Times New Roman Font ○ Use font size 12 ○ Double space 	You did some but not all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use Times New Roman Font ○ Use font size 12 ○ Double space 	You did all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use Times New Roman Font ○ Use font size 12 ○ Double space 	
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○ Have one inch margins	○ Have one inch margins	○ Have one inch margins	
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Three Rivers Community College
Humanities and Social Science Department
PHL K151-30520 World Religions
Professor: Dr. Sabrina D. MisirHiralall
Fall 2019
Grade Tracker

(See rubric for each project for more information on the grading process.)

Grading Scheme

93-100 A	73-76 C
90 -92 A-	70-72 C-
87 – 89 B+	67-69 D+
83-86 B	60 – 66 D
80 – 82 B-	0 - 59 F
77 – 79 C+	

- I Incomplete
- IF Incomplete/Failure
- IP In Progress (Past End of the Term)
- W Withdrawn

Discussion Board

12% total

1% each

Week of August 27	_____
Week of September 3	_____
Week of September 9	_____
Week of September 16	_____
Week of September 23	_____
Week of September 30	_____
Week of October 7	_____
Week of October 14	_____
Week of October 21	_____
Week of October 28	_____
Week of November 4	_____
Week of November 11	_____

Exams

30% total

10% each

Exam One	_____
Exam Two	_____
Exam Three	_____

Religious Exploration and Interview Project

24% total

Discussion Forum (Week of December 2) 4%	_____
Essay 20%	_____

Book Circles Project

24% total	_____
Book Club Discussion Forum	_____
4% total	
2% each	
Week of November 18	_____
Week of November 25	_____
Critical Book Review 20%	_____
Class Participation	_____
10% total	
Syllabus Quiz 2.5%	_____
Dialogical Discussions 5%	_____
Learning Logs 2.5%	_____