RELIGIONS OF ASIA

An introduction to the major religious traditions of Asia: Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism, with special emphasis on how each of these modes of thought gives rise to a special vision of man in the universe, a complex of myth and practice, and a pattern of ethical behavior.

Course requirements:
1. Regular attendance and participation
2. 3 hour exams (October 9, November 11, & December 14)
3. 3 one page discussions of text (to be assigned)

Sept. 9 Introduction

I. HINDUISM

Sept. 11 The Hindu Quest
Fenton, pp. 1-27
Klostermaier, Ch. 1, 2

Sept. 14 Vedic Cosmology
Klostermaier, Ch. 3

Sept. 16 Fire, Word and Sacrifice
Fenton, pp. 27-39
Klostermaier, pp. 119-121, Ch. 8

Sept. 18 The Devas and the Asuras
Klostermaier, Ch. 6, 7
Kuiper, pp. 107-120 (reserve)

Sept. 21 What is Real?
Klostermaier, Ch. 11, 12, 13, 26

Sept. 23 Ahimsa
Rudolph, pp. 6-62 (reserve)

Sept. 25 Karma and Rebirth
Fenton, pp. 40-52
Klostermaier, Ch. 9, 10, 20, 22
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Source(s)</th>
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| Sept. 28 | The Ages of the World                                                | Klostermaier, Ch. 19  
                      | Brown, pp. 43-87 (reserve)                                            |
| Sept. 30 | The Perfection of Caste Duty                                         | Klostermaier, Ch. 4, 5, 15  
                      | Miller, *Bhagavad Gita* (whole text)                                  |
| Oct. 2  | Release through Yoga                                                  | Fenton, pp. 53-65  
                      | Klostermaier, Ch. 21, 25  
                      | Miller, *Bhagavad Gita* (whole text)                                  |
| Oct. 5  | Union with God                                                        | Fenton, pp. 66-88  
                      | Klostermaier, Ch. 14, 16, 17                                        |
| Oct. 7  | Radha and Krsna                                                      | Dimock, *In Praise of Krishna* (handout)                                 |
| Oct. 9  | First Hour Exam                                                      |                                                                        |
| Oct. 12, 13 | Trinity Days                                                    |                                                                        |

**II. BUDDHISM**

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Source(s)</th>
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| Oct. 14 | Life of the Buddha                                                   | Fenton, pp.103-114  
                      | Harvey, pp. 9-31                                                   |
| Oct. 16 | Revolt against the Caste System                                      | Fenton, pp. 115-131  
                      | Harvey, pp. 32-46                                                 |
| Oct. 19 | Revolt against Belief in a Soul                                       | Harvey, pp. 47-72                                                   |
| Oct. 21 | The Four Noble Truths and Dependent Origination                      | Harvey, pp. 170-195                                                 |
| Oct. 23 | Meditation                                                           | Harvey, pp. 244-279                                                 |
|         |                                                                      | Meditation Texts (handout)                                            |
| Oct. 26 | Nirvana                                                              | Santideva, *Bodhicaryavatara* (whole text)                             |
| Oct. 28 | The Social Emotions  
| Harvey, pp. 196-216  
| Conze, “The Cultivation of the Social Emotions” (handout) |
| Oct. 30 | Life of a Monk  
| Harvey, pp. 73-94, 217-243  
| Thai Forest Tradition, contemporary (handout) |
| Nov. 2 | Mahayana and the New Notion of the Buddha  
| Fenton, pp. 132-157  
| Harvey, pp. 95-120  
| Santideva, *Bodhicaryavatara* |
| Nov. 4 | The Bodhisattva Ideal  
| Harvey, pp. 121-138  
| Santideva, *Bodhicaryavatara* |
| Nov. 6 | The Teaching of Emptiness  
| Harvey, pp. 138-169 |
| Nov. 9 | Mind-Only |
| Nov. 11 | **Second Hour Exam** |

**III. RELIGIONS OF CHINA**

| Nov. 13 | On the Chinese Worldview  
| Fenton, pp.161-175  
| Waley, pp. 83 – 147 (Mencius) |
| Nov. 16 | Ancient China and the Man Confucius  
| Fenton, pp.176-196  
| Hall & Ames, pp. 11-25 |
| Nov. 18 | The Confucian Family  
| Hall & Ames, pp. 29-68 |
| Nov. 20 | The Confucian State  
| Hall & Ames, pp. 71-192 |
| Nov. 23 | Confucius on Man  
| Hall & Ames, pp. 195-249 |
| Nov. 25, 27 | Thanksgiving |
Nov. 30  Confucius on the Mind
            Hall & Ames, pp. 253-336

Dec.  2  Daoism and the Dao
        Dao De Jing (whole text)

Dec.  4  The Daoist Sage
        Dao De Jing (whole text)

Dec.  7  wu wei ("non-action")
        Waley, pp. 3 – 79 (Chuang Tzu)

Dec.  9  Buddhism in China: On the Wings of Daoism
        Han-Shan Cold Mountain Poems (handout)

Dec. 11  Buddho-Daoist Rapport
        Han-Shan Cold Mountain Poems (handout)

Dec. 14  Third Hour Exam

BOOKS:

*R. T. Ames & D. L. Hall  Dao De Jing
J. Y. Fenton  Religions of Asia
D. L. Hall & R. T. Ames  Thinking Through Confucius
K. Klostermaier  A Survey of Hinduism
*B. S. Miller  The Bhagavad Gita
P. Harvey  Introduction to Buddhism
*B Santideva (Wallace trans.)  Bodhicaryavatara
A. Waley  Three Ways of Thought in Ancient China

With ISBNs:

Ames and Hall, Dao De Jing  9780345444196
Fenton, Religions of Asia  9780312057534
Hall and Ames, Thinking Through Confucius  9780887063770
Klostermaier, Survey of Hinduism  9780791470824
Miller, Bhagavad Gita  9780553213652
Harvey, Introduction to Buddhism  9780521313339
Santideva (Wallace), Bodhicaryavatara  9780192837202
Waley, Three Ways of Thought in Ancient China  9780804711692