



INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

REL 103
Comparative Religion

Effective Term
Fall 2023/Spring 2024/Summer 2024

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Part I: Course Information

Effective Term: Fall 2023/Spring 2024/Summer 2024

COURSE PREFIX: REL 103

COURSE TITLE: Comparative Religion

CONTACT HOURS: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:

The course is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge of the diversity of our cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences as demonstrated through an analysis of the religious experience of various persons and groups, East and West, in traditional and contemporary settings.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an analysis of the religious experience of various persons and groups, east and west, in traditional and contemporary settings. It includes indigenous religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

(Test ACCR with a minimum score 056 and test ACCW with a minimum score of 058) or (Test XCCR with a minimum score of 235 and test XCCW with a minimum score of 235) or (Test COMR with a minimum score of 056 and test COMS with a minimum score of 058) or (Test MM1 with a minimum score of 1) or (Test S01 with a minimum score of 380) or (Test A01 with a minimum score of 14 and test AO3 with a minimum score of 12) or ([ENG 100](#) Minimum Grade of C* or [ENG 155](#) Minimum Grade of C or [ENG 155](#) Minimum Grade of TC or [ENG 101](#) Minimum Grade of C or Credit level [ENG 101](#) Minimum Grade of TC)

***Online/Hybrid** courses require students to complete the [DLi Orientation Video](#) prior to enrolling in an online course.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Please visit the [BOOKSTORE](#) online site for most current textbook information.

Enter the semester, course prefix, number and section when prompted and you will be linked to the correct textbook.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

As assigned by the instructor.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's learning management system (LMS) used for course materials.
 Access to myHGTC portal for student self-services.
 College email access – this is the college's primary official form of communication.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATION:

Students enrolled in online courses will be required to participate in a minimum of one (1) proctored assignment and/or one (1) virtual event to support student identification verification. Please refer to your Instructor Information Sheet for information regarding this requirement.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

Students are required to read the textbook assignments. The text will introduce you to key concepts, principles, and methods devised to describe and explain religion and our society. Students are also encouraged to take notes. This course is designed to foster interaction, active learning and the sharing of ideas and information. Therefore, as a student, you are encouraged to participate and to be respectful of other students and the instructor. (Please be respectful when others are presenting, and asking questions. Therefore, do not engage in disruptive behavior and/or talking during class presentations and lectures). This directive is part of the standard of acceptable behavior for this class. Students in violation of this directive may be asked to leave the class for the remainder of the class period, and subsequently referred to the Chief Student Services Officer for further disciplinary action. For a detailed explanation of The Student Code for The South Carolina Technical College System, please refer to the College Catalog (available Online). The faculty and administration of HGTC are committed to enhancing your learning experience at the College through improved methods of instruction and support services.

As a matter of courtesy to other students and your professor, please turn off cell phones and other communication/entertainment devices before class begins. If you are monitoring for an emergency, please notify your professor prior to class and switch cell phone ringers to vibrate.

Online/Hybrid courses:

NETIQUETTE: is the term commonly used to refer to conventions adopted by Internet users on the web, mailing lists, public forums, and in live chat focused on online communications etiquette. For more information regarding Netiquette expectations for distance learning courses, please visit [Online Netiquette](#).

POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT (WHICH INCLUDES CHEATING ON TESTS, PLAGIARISM, AND FALSIFICATION OF INFORMATION)

Please review the "Student Rights and Responsibilities, Academic Misconduct" in the Horry-Georgetown Technical College Catalog and Student Handbook available in hardcopy and Online.

Classroom conduct: It is the responsibility of faculty to clearly communicate classroom expectations early in the semester. If, after that communication, students are unwilling to comply with expectations and have been notified of the unacceptability of such conduct, faculty should:

- First offense of disruptive behavior-Dismiss student from class "for a period" until discussion concerning acceptable conduct and next steps can occur between faculty and student. Student should

not be readmitted to class until such discussion occurs.

- Second offense of disruptive behavior-Dismiss student from class (or request Public Safety assistance for removal) for written referral to Chief Student Services Officer for disciplinary follow up.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, et al.

- Professor must meet with student to discuss allegation and evidence upon which it is based. The student must be given the opportunity to refute the allegation.
- If academic misconduct is substantiated to the Professor's satisfaction, the Professor notifies the student of the sanction to be imposed, consisting of one of the following:
 1. Assign a grade of zero to the test, assignment, etc. involved in the academic misconduct.
 2. Assign a failing grade for the course (with consultation on student academic options including the appeal process)
 3. Require the student to withdraw from the course
- Within five (5) working days of the meeting with the student, the Professor must provide a written explanation of the incident and any sanction imposed to the Chief Instructional Office. Please also notify the CSSO, as the CSSO serves as the CIO designee for appeal processing.

Part II: Student Learning Outcomes

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES and ASSESSMENTS*:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to

1. Use religious concepts in reasoning about values.
2. Evaluate religious ideas about the meaning of life.
3. Demonstrate critical and systematic thinking about religious questions through the appropriate use of evidence, reasons, inference, and questioning.
4. Translate historically-conditioned ideas and concepts into the present context.
5. Identify and distinguish between a variety of humanity's religious attitudes, practices, and beliefs.
6. Differentiate between world religions based on their important features and characteristics.
7. Explain the significant role of religions and religious experience throughout history and in a variety of cultural settings.
8. Articulate some of the most important basic concepts of religious faith and inquiry in its major historical expressions.
9. Demonstrate the importance of a civilized exchange of differing ideas.
10. Demonstrate effective analytical and communication skills.

**Suggested Outline:

Chapter 1 —Introduction: Why Religion Matters

Chapter 2—Hinduism

Chapter 3—Buddhism

Chapter 4—Sikhism

Chapter 5- Judaism

Chapter 6—Christianity

*Assessment(s): Complete class activities, handouts, homework assignments, papers, discussions and/or quizzes.

Midterm Exam

Chapter 7-Islam

Chapter 8—Confucianism

Chapter 9—Daoism

Chapter 10—Navajo

Chapter 11—Atheism

*Assessment(s): Complete class activities, handouts, homework assignments, papers, discussions and/or quizzes.

Final Exam

****Students – please refer to the Instructor’s Course Information sheet for specific information on assessments and due dates.***

Part III: Grading and Assessment

EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS*:

Students’ performance will be assessed and the weight associated with the various measures/artifacts are listed below.

All tangible measurements used for assessment of student course learning outcomes are at the discretion of the instructor and should be specifically outlined by the instructor. Suggested methods appropriate for this course can include but are not limited to the following: discussion questions, assignments, portfolios, written comprehensive exams, papers and group projects.

EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS*

Students’ performance will be assessed and the weight associated with the various measures/artifacts are listed below.

EVALUATION*

Exams (2 to 5 Exams including Final Exam if applicable)	40%-60%
Quizzes/Assignments/ Discussions	20%-30%
Papers/Projects/Portfolios Online Discussion Boards	20%-30%
Class participation	0%-10%

Total (must add up to 100%)

Individual professors, especially in a face to face setting, may wish to incorporate a participation

component to encourage class discussion. If so, weights may be adjusted allowing up to 10% for a graded participation component.

****Students, for the specific number and type of evaluations, please refer to the Instructor's Course Information Sheet.***

GRADING SYSTEM:

Please note the College adheres to a 10 point grading scale A = 100 – 90, B = 89- 80, C = 79 – 70, D = 69 – 60, F = 59 and below. You must have your Dean's approval if changes in the scale are made.

Grades earned in courses impact academic progression and financial aid status. Before withdrawing from a course, be sure to talk with your instructor and financial aid counselor about the implications of that course of action. Ds, Fs, Ws, WFs and Is also negatively impact academic progression and financial aid status.

The Add/Drop Period is the first 5 days of the semester for **full term** classes. Add/Drop periods are shorter for accelerated format courses. Please refer to the academic calendar for deadlines for add/drop (ACADEMIC CALENDAR). You must attend at least one meeting of all of your classes during that period. If you do not, you will be dropped from the course(s) and your Financial Aid will be reduced accordingly.

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Part IV: Attendance

Horry-Georgetown Technical College maintains a general attendance policy requiring students to be present for a minimum of 80 percent (80%) of their classes in order to receive credit for any course. Due to the varied nature of courses taught at the college, some faculty may require up to 90 percent (90%) attendance. Pursuant to 34 Code of Federal Regulations 228.22 - Return to Title IV Funds, once a student has missed over 20% of the course or has missed two (2) consecutive weeks, the faculty is obligated to withdraw the student and a student may not be permitted to reenroll. **Instructors define absentee limits for their class at the beginning of each term; please refer to the Instructor Course Information Sheet.**

For online and hybrid courses, check your Instructor's Course Information Sheet for any required

on-site meeting times. Please note, instructors may require tests to be taken at approved testing sites, and if you use a testing center other than those provided by HGTC, the center may charge a fee for its services.

Part V: Student Resources



THE STUDENT SUCCESS AND TUTORING CENTER (SSTC):

The SSTC offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Academic tutors** for most subject areas, **Writing Center support**, and **college success skills**.
2. Online **tutoring** and academic support resources.
3. Professional and interpersonal communication **coaching** in the EPIC Labs.

Visit the [Student Success & Tutoring Center](#) website for more information. To schedule tutoring, contact the SSTC at sstc@hgtc.edu or self-schedule in the Penji iOS/Android app or at www.penjiapp.com. Email sstc@hgtc.edu or call SSTC Conway, 349-7872; SSTC Grand Strand, 477-2113; and SSTC Georgetown, 520-1455, or go to the [Online Resource Center](#) to access on-demand resources.



STUDENT INFORMATION CENTER: TECH Central

TECH Central offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Getting around HGTC:** General information and guidance for enrollment, financial aid, registration, and payment plan support!
2. Use the [Online Resource Center \(ORC\)](#) including Office 365 support, password resets, and username information.
3. **In-person workshops, online tutorials and more services** are available in Desire2Learn, Student Portal, Degree Works, and Office 365.
4. **Chat with our staff on TECH Talk**, our live chat service. TECH Talk can be accessed on the student portal and on TECH Central's website, or by texting questions to (843) 375-8552.

Visit the [Tech Central](#) website for more information. Live Chat and Center locations are posted on the website. Or please call (843) 349 – TECH (8324), Option #1.



HGTC LIBRARY:

Each campus location has a library where HGTC students, faculty, and staff may check out materials with their HGTC ID. All three HGTC campus libraries are equipped with computers to support academic research and related school work; printing is available as well. Visit the [Library](#) website for more information or call (843) 349-5268.

STUDENT TESTING:

Testing in an **online/hybrid** course and in **make-up exam** situations may be accomplished in a variety of ways:

- Test administered within D2L
- Test administered in writing on paper
- Test administered through Publisher Platforms (which may have a fee associated with the usage)

Furthermore, tests may have time limits and/or require a proctor.

Proctoring can be accomplished either face-to-face at an approved site or online through our online proctoring service. To find out more about proctoring services, please visit the [Online Testing](#) section of the HGTC's Testing Center webpage.

The **Instructor Information Sheet** will have more details on test requirements for your course.

DISABILITY SERVICES:

HGTC is committed to providing an accessible environment for students with disabilities. Inquiries may be directed to HGTC's [Accessibility and Disability Service webpage](#). The Accessibility and Disability staff will review documentation of the student's disability and, in a confidential setting with the student, develop an educational accommodation plan.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to self-identify as needing accommodations and to provide acceptable documentation. After a student has self-identified and submitted documentation of a disability, accommodations may be determined, accepted, and provided.

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

Horry-Georgetown Technical College prohibits discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and abuse, on the basis of race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, marital or family status, veteran status, political ideas, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, including, but not limited to, lactation in educational programs and/or activities.

TITLE IX REQUIREMENTS:

All students (as well as other persons) at Horry-Georgetown Technical College are protected by Title IX—regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part- or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin—in all aspects of educational programs and activities. Any student, or other member of the college community, who believes that he/she is or has been a victim of sexual harassment or sexual violence may file a report with the college’s Chief Student Services Officer, campus law enforcement, or with the college’s Title IX Coordinator or designee.

*Faculty and Staff are required to report incidents to the Title IX Coordinators when involving students. The only HGTC employees exempt from mandatory reporting are licensed mental health professionals (only as part of their job description such as counseling services).

INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NON-DISCRIMINATION/TITLE IX POLICIES:

Student and prospective student inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, Title VII, and Title IX and their application to the College or any student decision may be directed to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dr. Melissa Batten, VP Student Affairs

Title IX, Section 504, and Title II Coordinator

Building 1100, Room 107A, Conway Campus

PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066

843-349-5228

Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu

Employee and applicant inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College may be directed to the Vice President for Human Resources.

Jacquelyne Snyder, VP Human Resources

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Officer and Title IX Coordinator

Building 200, Room 205B, Conway Campus

PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066

843-349-5212

Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu