



**National Taiwan University of Science and Technology**

**2020 Summer Program**

**RELG 101 Introduction to Religion**

**Course Outline**

**Term:** June 22-July 17, 2020

**Class Hours:** 8:00-10:30 (Monday through Friday)

**Course Code:** RELG 101

**Instructor:** Dr. Duane Long

**Home Institution:** State University of New York at Buffalo

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Email:** [hdlong@buffalo.edu](mailto:hdlong@buffalo.edu)

**Credit:** 4

**Class Hours:** This course will have 72 class hours, including 40 lecture hours, 10 lecturer office hours, 10-hour TA discussion sessions, 2-hour review sessions, 10-hour extra classes.

**Course Description:** Intro to Religion will introduce students to indigenous religions from around the globe, focusing specifically on the indigenous religious beliefs of North America, Mesoamerica, Africa, and Asia/Australia.

**Course Outcomes:** By the end of the course, students will have and demonstrate a grasp of fundamental features of the religions of indigenous people of North America, central America, Africa, Asia, and Australia. Students will recognize both commonalities in world indigenous religions and distinctions between the religions of different regions.



**Required Textbooks:** The following texts will be required: Joseph Brown, *Teaching Spirits: Understanding Native American Religious Traditions*; Kay Almere Read and Jason Gonzalez, *Mesoamerican Mythology*; and Jacob Olupona, *African Religions: A Very Short Introduction*. We will also read excerpts from the following texts, but these will be distributed electronically: Graham Harvey, *Indigenous Religions: A Companion*; Graham Harvey, *Readings in Indigenous Religions*; and Sylvia Marcos et. al., *Women and Indigenous Religions*.

### Course Policies:

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every class and arrive to class on time. Remember that each class period is going to cover almost as much material as a 16-week class would cover in a week. Arriving late will result in a 2% penalty to semester grade per class. An unexcused absence will result in a 5% penalty to semester grade, and only 1 absence for the semester can be excused, regardless of reason.

**Recordings:** Students are allowed and even encouraged to record lectures if they wish.

**Academic dishonesty:** any student found to have cheated on an exam will get an F for that exam. Cheating on more than 1 exam will automatically result in a failing grade for the course.

**Grading & Evaluation:** 4 exams, each 25% of semester grade. Exams 1, 2, and 3 are take-home, due Monday of Weeks 2, 3, and 4. Exam 4 is in discussion section Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Grade distribution:

Grade	Quality Points	Percentage
A	4.0	93.0% -100.00%
A-	3.67	90.0% - 92.9%
B+	3.33	87.0% - 89.9%
B	3.00	83.0% - 86.9%
B-	2.67	80.0% - 82.9%
C+	2.33	77.0% - 79.9%
C	2.00	73.0% - 76.9%
C-	1.67	70.0% - 72.9%
D+	1.33	67.0% - 69.9%
D	1.00	60.0% - 66.9%
F	0	59.9 or below



**Course Schedule:**

**Week1**

June 22 - Discuss *Teaching Spirits* pp. ix-22

June 23 - Discuss *Teaching Spirits* pp. 23-60

June 24 - Discuss *Teaching Spirits* pp. 61-106

June 25 - Discuss *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* pp. 23-66.

**Week2**

June 29 - Discuss *Readings in Indigenous Religions* pp. 17-49 and 173-193

June 30 - Discuss *Mesoamerican Mythology* pp. 7-51

July 1 - Discuss *Mesoamerican Mythology* pp. 52-122

July 2 - Discuss *Readings in Indigenous Religions* pp. 69-92 and 177-194

**Week3**

July 6 - Discuss *African Religions* pp. 1-55

July 7 - Discuss *African Religions* pp. 56-88 and *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* pp. 68-98

July 8 - Discuss *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* pp. 113-124 and 173-189 and 230-242

July 9 - Discuss *Readings in Indigenous Religions* pp. 149-172 and 237-249

**Week4**

July 13 - Discuss *Readings in Indigenous Religions* pp. 194-225 and 250-267

July 14 - Discuss *Women and Indigenous Religions* pp. 3-20 and *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* pp. 204-229

July 15 - Discuss *Women and Indigenous Religions* pp. 93-144

July 16 - Discuss *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* pp. 125-138 and 155-172