

Cover Sheet: Request 10376

REL 2XXX Intro to Christianity

Info

Process	Course New Ugrad/Pro
Status	Pending
Submitter	HACKETT,DAVID G dhackett@ufl.edu
Created	8/28/2015 1:28:32 PM
Updated	9/23/2015 2:03:46 PM
Description	Introduction to Christianity, including origins and development, beliefs and rituals, global diversity, Christianity-inspired literature, and engagement with contemporary cultural issues.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	CLAS - History 011612000	Nina Caputo		8/28/2015
Added ucc_consult Intro to Christianity.pdf					8/28/2015
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Pharies, David A	Conditionally approved by the CCC, with the following comments: Rewrite course description using approved style. Suggestion: Introduction to Christianity, including origins and development, beliefs and rituals, global diversity, Christianity-inspired literature, and engagement with contemporary cultural issues. Provide citation information for NRSV bible. (note NSRV typo)	9/23/2015
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - History 011612000	Pharies, David A		9/23/2015
No document changes					
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Pharies, David A		9/23/2015
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			9/23/2015
No document changes					
Statewide Course Numbering System					
No document changes					

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

Course|New for request 10376

Info

Request: REL 2XXX Intro to Christianity
Submitter: HACKETT,DAVID G dhackett@ufl.edu
Created: 9/23/2015 1:09:45 PM
Form version: 3

Responses

Recommended Prefix: REL
Course Level : 2
Number : XXX
Lab Code : None
Course Title: Introduction to Christianity
Transcript Title: Intro to Christianity
Effective Term : Earliest Available
Effective Year: Earliest Available
Rotating Topic?: No
Amount of Credit: 3
If variable, # min : *No response*
If variable, # max: *No response*
Repeatable Credit?: No
If repeatable, # total repeatable credit allowed: *No response*
S/U Only?: No
Contact Type : Regularly Scheduled
Degree Type: Baccalaureate
If other degree type, specify : *No response*
Weekly Contact Hours : Three
Category of Instruction : Introductory
Delivery Method(s): Online
Course Description : Introduction to Christianity, including origins and development, beliefs and rituals, global diversity, Christianity-inspired literature, and engagement with contemporary cultural issues.
Prerequisites : None
Co-requisites : None
Rationale and Placement in Curriculum : This is an entry level class intended to provide students with a foundational overview of the Christian religion.
Course Objectives : * gain a basic knowledge of the origins of Christianity and of its central beliefs and practices
* achieve a functional literacy in the New Testament and the gnostic gospels
* critically engage both the biblical text and its critics
* gain an elementary knowledge of major developments in the history of Christianity
* recognize the significance of the modern context for Christianity
* address a sampling of contemporary issues facing Christianity today
* gain an appreciation for Christianity as an intellectual and artistic tradition
Course Textbook(s) and/or Other Assigned Reading: Holy Bible: NRSV, New Revised Standard Version. New York: Harper Bibles, 2007.
McGrath, Alister E. Christianity: An Introduction. 3rd edition. Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.
Borg, Marcus and Wright, N.T. The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions. 2nd edition. HarperOne, 2007.
Endo, Shusaku. Silence. Teplinger, 1980.

O'Connor, Flannery. *A Good Man is Hard to Find and Other Stories*. HBJ, 1977.
(OTHER READINGS WILL BE PROVIDED ONLINE)

Weekly Schedule of Topics : Unit 1: Jesus & the Sources of Christianity

Week 1

- Course Intro, the academic study of religion
- Texts: Russell McCutcheon, "What is the Academic Study of Religion." Borg & Wright, part 1

Week 2

- Jesus' life and death
- Texts: Bible (selected texts), Borg & Wright, parts 2, 3, and 6, McGrath, pp 1-18.

Week 3

- Resurrection of Jesus
- Texts: Bible, selected texts, McGrath, p 19-28, Borg & Wright, parts 4,5 & 7

Week 4

- The Bible
- Texts: The Bible (selected texts), McGrath, ch 2, The Gospel of Thomas, tbt text on canon

Week 5

- Church Fathers & Ancient Creeds
- Texts: McGrath, pp 54-59, 121-134, "The Martyrdom of Saint Perpetua", tbt from Clement or Justin Martyr

Week 6 - EXAM #1

Unit 2: The Evolution of Christian Doctrine

Week 7

- Theology
- Texts: McGrath, p 59-120

Week 8

- Middle Ages, Augustine & Aquinas
- Texts: McGrath, pp 134-148, Excerpt from the Confessions, Excerpt from Summa, Excerpt from Eastern Christianity

Week 9

- Reformation & Denominations
- Texts: McGrath, pp 148-163, 199-218, tbt from Martin Luther, Calvin, Schleithem Confession, & the Counterreformation

Unit 3: Interlude - Missionaries and the Meeting of Civilizations

Week 9

- Missionaries and Clashing cultures
- Text: Silence, part 1

Week 10

- Cultures and the Problem of Evil
- Text: Silence, part 2

Week 11 - EXAM #2

Unit 4: Contemporary Issues

Week 12

- The Modern Age and Global Christianity
- Texts: McGrath, pp 163-198

Week 13

- Contemporary Issues: Pluralism, Politics, and Sexuality
- Texts: Miroslav Volf, "Human Flourishing" in A Public Faith, pp. 55-74, Stanley Fish and Richard Neuhaus, "Why We Can/Can't All Get Along," in First Things, tbd from Matthew Vines

Week 14

- Race, Gender
- Texts: tbd from Martin Luther King, Jr, Gustavo Gutierrez, James Cone, Karen Jo Torjesen, "Household Management and Women's Authority" in When Women Were Priests, pp. 53-82

Week 15

- Science and the Environment
- Texts: tbd from Francis Collins, Daniel Dennett, Lynn White, and Norman Wirzba

Unit 5: Christian Storytelling, and Poetry

Week 16

- Poetry and Literature
- Flannery O'Connor (selections from the book), tbd from Malcolm Guite, Wendell Berry

Final Exam Week - EXAM #3

Grading Scheme : ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS (TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 1000)

Attendance and Active Participation (100 pts): In order to get the most out of this course

and to complete it successfully, it is essential that you keep up with the reading assignments and attend every class prepared for discussion. You will get out of this class what you put into it, and a commitment to being prepared for each session is the best way to set yourself up for doing well in this course. Attendance and active participation will be worth 10% of your grade.

Response Papers (300 pts total): Over the course of the semester, students are required to submit at least ten response papers, (1-2 pages double-spaced) based on the reading assignments. Students may submit as many additional papers as they wish, but only your top ten papers will count toward your grade. Each paper should include two paragraphs. The first paragraph should provide a summary of the central idea or argument of the reading. In the second paragraph you should evaluate that central idea or argument. Papers must be submitted prior to class discussion of the reading. No response papers will be accepted after class discussion of the reading has occurred. Further instructions will be given in class.

Exams (3, at 200 points each, for 600 pts total): Exams will be designed to test your grasp of the material presented, both in the readings and in the course lectures. A variety of question types will be used: matching, true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions are all fair game. Exams will not be cumulative. See the course schedule for dates and details concerning each exam.

Instructor(s) : To Be Determined

External Consultation Results (departments with potential overlap or interest in proposed course, if any)

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	