McLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

History of Religions I

PHIL 1316 90, 91, 92, 93

Dr. Bryan C. Maine

NOTE: This is a Summer course.

Summer I 2023

Course Description:
A comparative study of world religions, including but not limited to Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:
None.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:
Students should have an understanding of how to access and use Brightspace and MCC email.

Instructor Information:
Instructor Name: Dr. Bryan C. Maine
MCC E-mail: bmaine@mclennan.edu
Office Location: MAC 340
Office Hours: by appointment through Zoom (https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/3600373850)

Required Text & Materials:
Title: *Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years*
Author: Diarmaid MacCulloch
Edition: Reprint Edition
Publisher: Penguin Press
ISBN: 9780143118695

Any documents posted on Brightspace (**B**)

MCC Bookstore Website: **http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/**

Methods of Teaching and Learning:
This course will be divided into 13 Learning Units. Each unit is composed of a primary source reading assignment and a textbook reading assignment. After completing the reading assignment, students will complete a quiz over each assignment. Students will also participate in class discussion through the use of discussion boards. Students will also complete three exams that will assess the students' ability to assimilate and articulate information.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Courses in this category focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

- **Critical Thinking (CT) --** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill (COM) --** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Social Responsibility (SR)** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- **Personal Responsibility (PR) --** to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and critique religious texts.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse beliefs, practices, and values of selected religious traditions.
3. Trace and present orally or in writing the origin and historical developments of selected religious traditions.
4. Communicate understanding of selected religious traditions, orally or in writing.
5. Discuss ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse religious beliefs.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Dates	Topic
Orientation Unit To Learning Unit 2 Due June 5	Orientation Unit
	Learning Unit 01: Early Christianity and Persecution
	Learning Unit 02: Establishing the Boundaries of the Faith and Defining the Canon
Learning Unit 3 To Learning Unit 5 Due June 12	Learning Unit 03: Empire and Councils
	Learning Unit 04: Worship, Monasticism, and Augustine
	Learning Unit 05: Christianity in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia
Learning Unit 6 To Learning Unit 7 Due June 19	Learning Unit 06: Papal Monarchy, Crusades, and Medieval Theology
	Learning Unit 07: Monasticism, Mysticism, and Calls for Reforms **Essay Exam I Due**
Learning Unit 8 To Learning Unit 10 Due June 26	Learning Unit 08: Protestant Reformations
	Learning Unit 09: Anabaptism and the English Reformation
	Learning Unit 10: Catholic Reform and Counter-Reformation and Beyond Europe
Learning Unit 11 To Learning Unit 13 Due	Learning Unit 11: The Enlightenment, Liberalism, and Protestant Response
	Learning Unit 12: North American Christianity and Liberation Theologies

July 3	Learning Unit 13: Vatican I & II and World Christianity **Essay Exam II**

Course Grading Information:

1. **Textbook Quizzes:** After completing the assigned textbook reading for each learning unit, you will take an online quiz. The quizzes will consist of 10 questions. Each quiz will have a timer of 10 minutes, so **please read the assignment reading in advance rather than hunting through the assignment for the answers.**

2. **Class Discussion:** Each learning unit will have one discussion starter threads. Students will engage discussion by reading a passage and reflecting upon it. For each discussion thread, students must post an **original substantive post** on one day and then on a different day provide an **original substantive response** to another student's post. For each discussion thread, 65% of the grade will come from the student's original post, 20% will come from their response to another student's post, and 15% will come from posting their original post and response to a classmate on separate days.

3. **Exams:** Over the course of the semester, there will be two essay exams. For each exam, students will be provided a list of essay questions. From the list, students will choose one essay question to answer.

- The essay will be between 750-1000 words.
- It must include an introduction with thesis and conclusion.
- Your answer will be based on the assigned readings and discussion board participation.
- Your essay must include a bibliography of all sources used.
- It will be submitted online through Turnitin which will check for plagiarism.

Assignment Values		Grading Scale
Textbook Quizzes:	50%	A = 90 - 100%
Class Discussions:	25%	B = 80 - 89%
Exams:	25%	C = 70 - 79%
		D = 60 - 69%
		F = 59% and below

Academic Integrity:
Students are expected to abide by the MCC Academic Integrity Statement. With regard to cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty, the term **"cheating" includes, but is not limited to**: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations, papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the professor in writing or; (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the MCC faculty or staff. **The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to**, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism includes the failure to place three or more words from an outside source in quotation marks. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. It also includes material prepared by AI software.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:
This course is **not a self-paced course**. Students are expected to complete all assignments within the timeframe given. Late work will **not** be accepted for any reason. All assignments must be completed in the week in which they are due. Make-up exams will only be allowed in the case of an MCC approved excused absences, but they are strongly discouraged. Students should make every effort to complete the exams on time. Students are responsible for contacting the professor in advance about any upcoming absences that cannot be avoided.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:
Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is conducive to learning and to treat each other with respect. This means completing assignments in a timely manner and showing respect for other's viewpoints. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)
(https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)
Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

Students must complete a minimum of 75% of all assignments to meet the requirements of this class attendance policy. There are 50 total assignments in the course (textbook quizzes, primary

source quizzes, discussion threads, and exams); therefore, students must complete 37 of the 50 assignments to meet the attendance policy of this course. Failure to complete 75% of the assignment will result in the student failing the course due to "absences" despite having a passing grade.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

      disabilities@mclennan.edu 254-2998122

      Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the acting Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom from 7:30 am - 6:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 7:30 am - 5:00 pm on Friday. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom (https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/2542998500) or email (ast@mclennan.edu) during the above mentioned times.

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg. Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to

https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html
to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at
https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity,
dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/FacultyandStaffCommons/requirements.html for information on the minimum
system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace
learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software,
and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC
student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the
date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy
(http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf) regarding
college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan
email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college
employees should use for official college information or business. Students are
expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more
information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications.
Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular
basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication

method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- Email Setup for iPhones and iPads
- Email Setup for Androids

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.