Updated 07/18/2023

McLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

History of Religions I

PHIL 1316 M080, M081

Dr. Bryan C. Maine

NOTE: This is an Online course.

NOTE: This is a Minimester course.

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: *The Bible: An Introduction*
Author: Jerry Sumney
Edition: 3rd
Publisher: Fortress Press
ISBN: 1506466788

Title: New Oxford Annotated Bible
Edition: 4th
Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780195289602

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 15 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 Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Dates	Topic
Orientation Unit To Learning Unit 9 Due May 19	Orientation Unit Learning Unit 1: What is the Bible and How do we read it?
	Learning Unit 2: Creation and Corruption
	Learning Unit 3: The Patriarchs
	Learning Unit 4: Exodus and the Way of the Lord **Exam I Due**
	Learning Unit 5: Settling the Promise Land and the Rise of the Monarchy
	Learning Unit 6: The United Kingdom of David and Solomon
	Learning Unit 7: The Kingdoms Turn from God

	Learning Unit 8: Exile and the Return Home
	Learning Unit 9: Old Testament Poetry and Wisdom Literature **Exam II Due**
Learning Unit 10 To Learning Unit 15 Due May 27	Learning Unit 10: The Synoptics Gospels
	Learning Unit 11: Gospel of John and the Birth of the Church
	Learning Unit 12: Pauline Literature I
	Learning Unit 13: Pauline Literature II and Post-Pauline Literature
	Learning Unit 14: General Epistles I
	Learning Unit 15: General Epistles II and Revelation **Exam III Due**

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. **Primary Source Quizzes**: After completing the assigned reading of the biblical text 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.**

3. **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.

4. **Exams:** Exam I will cover the material from Learning Units 1-4. Exam II will cover the material from Learning Units 5-9. Exam III will cover material from Learnoing Units 10-15 Students should take note of the Key Terms and Concepts provide in the Learning Units as they prepare for the exams.

Assignment Values		**Grading Scale**
Textbook Quizzes:	25%	A = 90 - 100%
Primary Source Quizzes:	25%	B = 80 - 89%
Class Discussions:	30%	C = 70 - 79%
Exams:	20%	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)
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 51 total assignments in the course (textbook quizzes, primary source quizzes, discussion threads, and exams); therefore, students must complete 38 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.

07/02/2024

MCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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 Accommodations (Disability Services) 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)299-8122 Room 319, Student Services

Title IX:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive Federal funds. 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 a Title IX incident are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465.

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students which can include educational accommodations such as excused absences

and the opportunity to make up assignments and tests. Lactation spaces are also available on campus. Please email titleix@mclennan.edu for more information.

MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Faculty and Staff may email titleix@mclennan.edu to submit a report.

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 may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting https://www.lighthouse-services.com

Visit McLennan's Title IX webpage at https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/ to learn more about Title IX protections, reporting, and resources.

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. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/)

At our campus, we understand that students face numerous challenges beyond the classroom. That's why we offer Success Coaches who are dedicated to helping you succeed. Our coaches know that life can sometimes get in the way of your educational goals. Through personalized meetings, Success Coaches empower you to overcome obstacles, maximize your potential, and create a clear path to both academic and personal success. Our Success Coaches are ready to help you achieve your dreams! Schedule your appointment today by calling 254-299-8226 or emailing success@mclennan.edu.

College personnel also recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources and other essential resources, we encourage you to contact the CREW - Campus Resources Education Web by calling 254-299-8561 or emailing crew@mclennan.edu.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min.

Success Coaching Services, the CREW, and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services, suite 249.

The Student Counseling Center offers confidential mental health counseling to currently enrolled students at no charge. Counselors are trained to help students with problems related to personal, social, and emotional concerns. Sessions focus on short-term goals in order to facilitate students college success and adjustment. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom.

Make an appointment to meet with a counselor by visiting the center in the Wellness & Fitness building, room 101, calling 254-299-8210, or emailing counseling@mclennan.edu.

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/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Please view our Academic integrity statement for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is

authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:
Go to https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-StaffCommons/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 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.