

**Religions of the Western World
Class Prospectus, Fall Term 2008**

Class Information:

CRN: 21481

Class #: R102

Location: Benton Center 204

Time: Monday 6-8:50 PM

Class Meets for 11 Weeks, beginning September 29 and ending December 10

How To Contact the Instructor – Should You Ever Entertain Such a Peculiar Notion

Name: Jon Goman

Work Phone: 752-3734

Work Address: 2615 NW Arnold Way, Corvallis, 97330

E-Mail: jon@saintanselmomoregon.org

- **I usually check my email daily, but since more than one person uses the phone and computer in my office please be persistent and contact me again if you don't hear from me within 24 hours. Occasionally messages get lost.**
- **My official office hours are Wednesdays from 4:00-5:30 and Mondays from 10:00-11:00 AM.**
- **You are welcome to make appointments with me for time during the evening and on weekends. I reserve several hours a week for consulting with LBCC students outside of standard business hours.**

NOTE: If you begin to have trouble with the material, it is better to talk with me sooner rather than later.

My office is located at the intersection of Monroe St, 26th St. And Arnold Way, just across 26th from the Monroe St. Beanery. If I'm not in my office it's always worth it to check the Bean.

Text Book and Internet Resources:

The required text for this class is Huston Smith's [The World's Religions](#). It can be purchased from the Benton Center bookstore or, frequently for cheap at local used bookstores.

Study questions and supplemental resources can be found at my website: saintanselmomoregon.org.. Click the box labeled "class material" at the far right of the menu close to the top of the page. You will see a menu of offerings labeled "Lectures on the World's Major Religions." Click on what you need from that menu. **NOTE WELL:** The key items here are the study questions and answer keys for each religion. These study questions are keyed to your

assigned readings and to the lectures. As I construct the tests out of material covered in the study questions, a review of them can be helpful preparation for a quiz or exam.

When dealing with Islam, you will be asked to read supplementary information found on the Internet at <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/GLOSSARY/ISLGLOSS.HTM> and at <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/ISLAM/ISLAM1.HTM> Follow the guides at the bottom of the pages to read the rest of the articles in the sequence.

When dealing with Judaism you will be asked to read the supplementary material found on the Internet at <http://www.wsu.edu/~dee/HEBREWS/CONTENT1.HTM> .

GRADES:

1. Most of your grade will come from two (2) objective exams, a mid-term and a final. Tests are cumulative and extensive, consisting of between 70 and 130 questions based on your assigned readings. During the lectures I will try to flag (literally) key concepts on which you will be examined.

2. You may be given a quiz at any time.

3. We have a limited number of in-class sessions. Your presence in the class room is important to your grade. If you need to be absent, please make arrangements with me before hand. You will be responsible for all material in the lectures and discussions whether or not you are in attendance.

4. I have no objection to recording the lectures if you wish to do so. I move around when I lecture so a directional mike has trouble picking me up.

5. Alternative methods of grading are available for those who have trouble with objective exams. ***If you intend to take advantage of this option, please let me know sometime during the first two weeks of term and arrange a time to talk about what alternatives you'd like to use.***

6. Any assignments turned in after the last class period in December may be counted toward your grade ***if arrangements are made with me before hand.*** However, it will be your responsibility to make sure I have graded your work and recorded the grades with with LBCC.

Assignments:

September 29

Grades, classroom procedures, learning resources etc. (Administrative trivia and esoterica)

Introduction to religion as an area of academic study :What Are We Talking about?

October 6

Complete the study questions on Zoroastrianism found at saintanselmoregon.org under the button Class material.

October 13

Read the chapter on Judaism in [The World's Religions](#)

October 20

Read the supplemental Internet material on Judaism

October 27

Mid-Term Exam covering material on Religion in General, Zoroastrianism and Judaism

November 3

Read the chapter on Christianity in [The World's Religions](#)

November 10

Watch the Audio-visual presentation on Eastern Orthodoxy in class

November 17

Read the chapter on Islam in [The World's Religions](#)

November 24

Supplemental Internet Material on Islam

December 1

Wrap up and Review – Modern Western Religions (New Age)

December 8

Final Exam