

**Religions of the Western World
Class Prospectus, Fall Term 2009**

Class Information:

CRN: 21481

Class #: R102

Location: Benton Center 204

Time: Monday 6-8:50 PM

Class Meets for 11 Weeks, beginning September 28 and ending December 7

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 8:00-10:00 AM. My unofficial office hours (when most of the work actually gets done) are whenever you arrange to see me.**
- **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. The purpose of this is to accommodate students who work, attend school or care for families during the day.**

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. It looks like a house, not an office (but it's an office), has a porch swing, is covered in blue painted shakes and has an "Episcopal Church Welcomes You" sign on the SW corner of the building.

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.

Material on Zoroastrianism, including copies of my lecture notes, are found on my web site.

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.

NOTE WELL: This is my personal website and is not a Linn-Benton Community College instructor site.

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.

NOTE: Navigation of these sites is sometimes confusing. In the upper left corner of the first site you will see a “Browse” category. Click on it and then scroll down the resultant screen until you come to the category “Islam.” Click on that word and you will be taken to the proper section of the site.

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> . [NOTE ON SITE NAVIGATION: TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT READING IN THE SERIES, CLICK ITS TITLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAST PAGE OF THE CURRENT READING.]

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. (I do not grade on attendance, but sad experience shows that if you aren’t there you won’t learn.) 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. ***But don’t ask me for an alternative grading method within a week of the exam. Work something out with me earlier!***

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 28

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 5

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

October 12

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

October 19

Read the supplemental Internet material on Judaism

October 26

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

November 2

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

November 9

Watch the Audio-visual presentation on Eastern Orthodoxy in class

November 16

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

November 23

Supplemental Internet Material on Islam

November 30

Wrap up and Review – Modern Western Religions (New Age), if we have time.

December 7

Final Exam