

Crafton Hills College Course Outline

1. **Discipline:** Religious Studies
2. **Department:** Social Sciences
3. **Course Title:** Religion in America
4. **Course I.D.:** RELIG 135
5. **Prerequisite(s):** None
Corequisite(s): None

Departmental Recommendation(s): Eligibility for ENGL 101 as determined by the CHC assessment process.
Reading: pass a standardized test of reading comprehension at or above the 12th grade level

6. **Semester Units:** 3

7. **Minimum Semester Hours**

Lecture: 48 Lab: 0 Clinic: 0 Field: 0

8. **Need for the Course:**

This course is regularly offered at four year institutions and is representative of the courses needed to maintain a comprehensive religious studies program. This course is associate degree applicable, transfers to UC and CSU, satisfies a CSU general education requirement in area C2, Arts/Literature/Philosophy/Foreign Language and an IGETC requirement in area 3, Arts and Humanities.

9. **Goals of the Course:**

This course is appropriate to the college's mission in that it is part of the lower-division curriculum preparing students to transfer to four-year institutions. In this course, students will have the opportunity to develop a critical approach to thinking about religious doctrines, denominations, and activities, an understanding of individual and cultural differences, and an ability to use this knowledge and understanding in daily life.

10. **Catalog Description:**

Study of the principal groups, figures, issues, and trends in religion from colonial times to the present, covering such topics as the Puritans, the growth of religious liberty in America, religion and social protest, the African-American religious experience, Catholic-Protestant-Jew, and contemporary religious phenomena. This course is also offered as HIST 135.

11. **Schedule Description:**

Study of religion in America from colonial times to present.

12. Entrance Skills

A. Requisite Skills: None

B. Recommended Skills:

It is highly recommended that students upon entering the course be able to:

1. Read and comprehend a college-level textbook
2. Write an essay using proper spelling, grammar and punctuation, incorporating concepts and data and research into a coherent paragraph that demonstrates inference to support a point

13. Course Objectives:

Upon satisfactory completion of the course students will be able to:

- A. Discuss religion as a cognitive, affective, and social system employing myths, symbols, and rituals in the expression of ultimate value.
- B. Describe, compare, and contrast key terms such as theism, deism, humanism, secularism, fundamentalism, sectarianism, anti-clericalism, theocracy, sect, cult, evangelicalism, revivalism.
- C. Describe the major figures, doctrines, and rituals associated with denominations such as the Baptists, Methodists, Church of Christ, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Mormons, Seventh Day Adventists, Shakers, Amish, Jehovah's Witnesses, Catholics, Jews, Eastern Orthodox, Millerites, Black Muslims, Native Americans, Masons, Pentecostals, Christian Science, Quakers, Mennonites, Moravians, Episcopalians, and religions of non-European immigrants (e.g., Buddhism, Islam, Santaria).
- D. Analyze the importance of religious doctrines and organizations in issues throughout American history such as colonial and frontier settlement, slavery and abolition, war and peace, social justice, prohibition, abortion, segregation and civil rights, church-state separation.
- E. Discuss major religious events and eras in American history: Puritanism, Great Awakening, Great Revival, Darwinism, New Age.
- F. Explain the rationale behind, and the impact of proselytizing, ecumenism, and family values.

14. Representative Texts and Instructional Materials:

Albanese, C. (1999). America: Religion and Religions (3/e). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Baker, J. (2006) Religion in America. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Corrigan, J. and Hudson, W. (2004). Religion in America (7/e). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Hemeyer, J. (2006). Religion in America (5/e). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

15. Course Content:

- A. Native American religions
- B. Colonial American Religion: Puritanism, Anglicanism, Quakerism, Catholicism, Baptists, Methodists

- C. Deism, humanism, secularism, disestablishment
- D. Great Revival on the Frontier
- E. Freemasonry and the anti-Masonic movement
- F. Utopian groups: Mormons, Shakers, Oneida
- G. Apocalyptic sects: Millerites, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists
- H. Slavery and Abolition
- I. Immigrant religion: Catholic, Orthodox, Lutheran, Jewish, Buddhist, Islamic, Hispanic
- J. Christian Science
- K. Pentecostalism
- L. Foreign missions
- M. Prohibition
- N. Women's movement & family values
- O. Social justice & the religious right
- P. War and peace from World War I to the present
- Q. Darwin vs. creationism
- R. The African-American religious experience and the Civil rights movement
- S. New Age and "cults"
- T. The Ecumenical movement
- U. Religion in the media: print, electronic and the Internet

16. Methods of Instruction:

This course may be taught via lecture, discussion, group activities and /or multimedia presentation: such contact may utilize either a traditional classroom setting or two way audiovisual contact with remote site.

17. Assignments and Methods of Evaluation:

Instructors may use a combination of the following, of which at least 35 percent of the total course grade must be written or essay in format:

- A. Objective testing (e.g., true-false, multiple choice, fill-in): weekly quizzes, group tasks, and final examination. (10-75%)
- B. Essay testing: weekly quizzes, group tasks, midterm and final examination.(10-75%)
- C. Term projects involving interviews, internet and library research paper in APA or MLA format. (0-50%)
- D. Several essays of approximately 250-500 words in length using standard rules of punctuation, spelling, grammar, involving incorporation of course terms and concepts, and interpretation of narrative data into coherent paragraphs which support a point.(0-50%)
- E. A journal with daily entries of reflections on course content.(0-50%)
- F. On-line discussion using email lists, newsgroups and/or chat rooms. (0-25%)
- G. Participation. (0-25%)

18. Distributed Education Methods of Instruction: None