 REL 100—Introduction to World Religions

Course Title: REL 100—Introduction to World Religions
Course Credits: Three credit hours
School: Scottsdale Community College
Semester: Fall 2015
Textbooks: Experiencing the World’s Religions, by Michael Molloy
Section #: 34278
Meeting Time/Place: TR noon-1:20 p.m. in AP 291
Instructor: Dr. Michael S. Valle
Phone: 480-423-6233
E-mail: michael.valle@scottsdalecc.edu
Office: SB 124
Office Hours: Monday 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wednesday 1:30-2:30 p.m., Thursday 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Textbook Website: www.mhhe.com/molloy4

Course Description
The development of various religions from the prehistoric to modern times. Political, economic, social and geographic relationships among world religions. Consideration of both Eastern and Western religions.

Course Requirements
Five objective tests, two in-class essays, and a paper. Extra credit is available.

Grades
There are 800 points possible in this course. The five objective tests are worth 100 points each. The two in-class essays are worth 100 points each. The paper is worth 100 points.

The final grade will be determined by the following scale:
A=720 to 800 points (90%-100%)
B=640 to 719 points (80%-89%)
C=560 to 639 points (70%-79%)
D=480 to 559 points (60%-69%)
F=0 to 479 points (0%-59%)

Final grades can either be on the normal A through F scale, or one of the following:
Withdrawal – You can receive a “W” (withdrawal without failing) at Admissions and Records without my signature if you decide to withdraw by the due date. You can withdraw with my signature after the due date. I reserve the right to give you a “Y” (failing withdrawal) to you if you are failing at the time of the request. This happens if your behavior in class warrants this mark.
Incomplete – If you do not complete all work by the end of the course, you may contract with me to finish it by a certain date to receive credit for the course. This is not granted automatically, and is considered only for special cases.

Tests and Papers
Missed tests score a zero. *Buy a pencil* for tests.

The questions for tests come from four sources: class lectures, the Multiple Choice Quiz section from the Molloy text’s website, the Molloy text itself, and the Extra Credit questions available on the course website.

Two tests (Islam and Buddhism) are accompanied by in-class essays. This makes these two tests the equivalents of a midterm and a final exam.

The term paper will be accepted late with a penalty of ten points (one full letter grade) for each class period that it is late.

Attendance
Good attendance can help you if your grade is borderline. Do not habitually come late to class.

Safety Regulations
All discussion in our class will be conducted in a respectful manner. We will discuss controversial ideas, yet we will not attack one another mentally or physically.

Special-Needs Students
If you have any special needs, call Disability Resources at 480-423-6517.

Academic Dishonesty
Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Both will result in a failure for the assignment in question, or failure in the class as a whole.

Taping
If you would like to tape a lecture, please ask me beforehand.

Extra Credit
The course website has extra credit questions available during the course. Answer the questions completely and turn them in to receive two extra credit checks toward your final grade in the course. Completing all extra credit opportunities will contribute 4% to your final grade. You will also be able to answer questions on the test that are based on extra credit questions.

Incomplete and late extra credit assignments receive only one or zero checks. I accept late extra credit all the way up until the final exam, but a late extra credit cannot earn more than one check.

Turn in extra credit on the second class meeting of the corresponding week of the extra credit. For example, week one extra credit is due on the second meeting of the class during the first week. There is no Week Nine extra credit.
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