

**RELS 32 Course Outline as of Fall 2013****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: RELS 32                      Title: RELIGION IN AMERICA  
 Full Title: Religion in America  
 Last Reviewed: 10/8/2018

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable  
 Grading: Grade or P/NP  
 Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
 Also Listed As:  
 Formerly: HUMAN 10.4

**Catalog Description:**

This course will look at the interaction between diverse ethnic and cultural groups in the shaping of American religious discourse and institutions and the encounter between secular and religious forces. It will survey the many multi-cultural personalities, ideas and movements of the past 400 years.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course will look at the interaction between diverse ethnic and cultural groups in the shaping of American religious discourse and institutions and the encounter between secular and religious forces. It will survey the many multi-cultural personalities, ideas and movements of the past 400 years. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	E	Humanities		Fall 1996	
	G	American Cultures/Ethnic Studies			
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	C2	Humanities		Fall 1997	
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	3B	Humanities		Fall 1997	
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1996	Inactive:	
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1996	Inactive:	

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Track and analyze the impact of colonization on both European and indigenous peoples' religious expressions.
2. Describe and distinguish the impact of the institution of slavery on both the Europeans and Africans in America and on their religious expressions and political and cultural development.
3. Describe and appraise the impact of industrialization and immigration in non-Anglo Europeans and their religious expressions.
4. Distinguish and compare the leading and often contentious intellectual and scientific claims behind emerging spiritual expression.
5. Explain and appraise the interaction between religious communities and secular political culture in America.
6. Identify and evaluate the major personalities and events which shaped American religious discourse.
7. Examine and appraise the effect of religious enthusiasm in the shaping of such American political discourse and institutions as abortion, Suffrage, Prohibition, Civil Rights, etc.
8. Probe the variety and rivalry of religious denominations and the restless debates within denominations which led to schism and

- proliferation in American culture.
9. Discern and evaluate the emergence of new religions and new religious expression in American society.
  10. List examples of religious institutions and styles of expression from each major historical source of origin and their cognate traditions.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Native American Religious Expression
  - A. Rituals
  - B. Myths
  - C. Religious Concepts
- II. Puritanism and Early Colonists
- III. The Impact of Colonization on the Religious Expressions of Europeans and Indigenous Peoples
- IV. Protestant Denominations such as:
  - A. Methodist
  - B. Baptist
  - C. Presbyterian
  - D. Congregationalist
  - E. Episcopalian
- V. Quakers and Mennonites
- VI. Deism and the First Amendment
  - A. Jefferson
  - B. Paine
  - C. Franklin
- VII. Slavery and African American Religions such as:
  - A. African-Christian Syncretism
  - B. African American Christianity
  - C. Nation of Islam
- VIII. Judaism in the United States
  - A. The impact of immigration
  - B. The Reform movement
  - C. Orthodox and Conservative
  - D. Reconstructionism and Zionism
- IX. Catholicism in the United States
  - A. Americanism
  - B. Nativism & "Know Nothings"
  - C. The Catholic Worker
- X. Apocalypticism and New American Religions
  - A. The Mormons
  - B. Christian Science
  - C. The Millerite Craze
  - D. Jehovah's Witnesses
  - E. Seventh-Day Adventists
  - F. Mesmerism
  - G. Scientology
- XI. Pentecostal, Holiness Movements, Evangelism and Revivalism
- XII. Politics, Religion, and Social Change
- XIII. Humanism & Free Thought
- XIV. World Religions in the United States

- A. Buddhism
- B. Islam
- C. Hinduism
- D. Other

### Assignment:

1. Weekly reading assignments of between 25-50 pages
2. 2-5 multiple choice and/or essay quizzes and exams
3. An argumentative or expository term paper of 5-10 pages
4. Final exam of objective or essay or combined format
5. Weekly quizzes
6. Optional field trips, interviews, debates and oral presentations
7. Reading reports 2-4 pages

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Reading reports and essays

Writing  
25 - 60%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Analytical interpretations

Problem solving  
10 - 25%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, true/false, matching items, completion, essay exams, text analysis

Exams  
20 - 40%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Classroom participation, optional: oral presentations, reports on interviews, museum visits, or field trips.

Other Category  
0 - 10%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Joel A. Carpenter, Revive Us Again: The Reawakening Of American Fundamentalism, Oxford, 1997.(classic)

John Corrigan & Winthrop S. Hudson, Religion In America, 7th Ed.,  
Prentice Hall, 2004. (classic)

Wacker, Grant and Randell Balmer, Religion in American Life: A Short History, 2nd Ed.  
Oxford University Press, 2008

America's Four Gods: What We Say About God and What That Says About Us. Paul Froese  
and Christopher Bader. Oxford, 2010.

Syllabus Reader