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Office Hours: M/W 4:45-5:45pm and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Before industrialization, the rise of secularism, and the era of rapid transit/communications, how did religions spread? What were the social, spiritual, and political functions of the sacred? Why and how did some gods begin to dominate the world's religious landscape? This course will help students to answer these and other questions by examining the global expansion of various religions before 1800. We will discuss the migrations of various gods and theologies into different parts of the world, and into diverse cultures, through conquests, commerce, miracles, missionaries, and converts.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
Spence, Jonathan. The Memory Palace of Matteo Ricci.
Tagliacozzo, Eric. The Longest Journey: Southeast Asians and the Pilgrimage to Mecca.

GRADING:
-25% Participation
-25% Exams
-50% Unit Projects

Participation: Participation is vital to this class. This includes attendance, reading, talking, quizzes (if necessary), short writing assignments, and other activities designed to prompt discussion. This class is our class, not my class. To underscore this idea, each class period will involve some kind of participatory discussion or activity. It is, therefore, essential that all students do the assigned readings, prepare for discussions, attend class, and participate in course activities. I am certain that, if we all do these things, the class will be meaningful and rewarding for everyone. As part of their participation grade, each student will lead one 30 minute discussion of the day's readings. This will include choosing the day's readings in consultation with Ethan. Ethan will be happy to provide students with suggestions for their readings, but it will be up to the student to choose additional readings and to design any mini-assignments they want to give in conjunction with the readings to facilitate discussion.

Exams: There will be three exams given during the course of the semester: one for each unit. Each student is responsible to create their own study guides for these exams from lecture, the readings, class discussion, and films. Everything in the class is testable! Exams will be a combination of multiple choice questions, short answers, and an essay.

Unit Projects: Unit projects are of three types.
  Type 1. a. Book Review or b. Research Paper
  Type 2. a. Film Review or b. Biography/Museum Exhibit
Each student will complete one project for each unit and each student will do one of each type for a different unit. Students will select which of the three types they want to count for the largest portion of their grade. That type will be worth 30% of their grade and the other two will each be worth 10% respectively. Students will select and be assigned their unit projects during the first week of class. The 10% options (labeled 'a' above) selected by each student will require relatively little or no research outside of class and for those options students will write a 2 page (double spaced) paper. The 30% option (labeled 'b' above) will require a significant amount of research and will also include an 8-10 minute presentation in front of the class, and for those options students will write a 5-7 page (double spaced) paper, unless they select the museum exhibit option.

Type 1: Book Review or Research Paper
   a. Book Review: Students who select this option will write a traditional academic book review about the book to be read by the class during a specific unit. It is important to remember that the purpose of this review is not to ascertain whether or not the student 'liked' the book, but rather how well the book succeeded in its purpose. What is the author's purpose? Did they fulfill their purpose? What did they teach us about globalization?
   b. Research Paper: Students who select this option will write a research paper related to the unit topic. This paper must focus on a person, place, or thing related to the expansion of a religion, not just on the religion itself or its doctrine. The paper must cite now fewer than 4 sources, at least one of which must be a primary source. None of those sources can be Wikipedia.

Type 2: Film Review or Biography/Museum Exhibit
   a. Film Review: Students who select this option will write a review of a film we viewed in class. The point of this view, as with the book review, is not to ascertain whether or not the student 'liked' the film, but rather to discuss the film's objectives and to evaluate whether or not it met those objectives. These film reviews should also discuss the relationship between the film and the larger class topic of religious expansion.
   b. Biography/Museum Exhibit:
      - Biography: Students who select this option will choose an individual whose life relates to religious expansion and write a biography about a portion of their life. This paper must be based on at least one primary document. The purpose of this assignment is to help the reader to identify with the chosen person. Historical facts that come from research must be put into endnotes that do not count as part of the total paper's length. The paper must cite no fewer than 4 sources, at least one of which must be a primary source. None of those sources can be Wikipedia. These papers should be creative.
      - Museum Exhibit: Students doing this assignment a one room museum exhibit dedicated, in some way, to the global expansion of a religion. The exhibit must be drawn to scale on a piece of graph paper. A plaque of no-more than 50 words may accompany each object in the exhibit. Students should also write a 2-3 page paper that explains some of the larger themes in their exhibit. Two or more sources need to be cited in the written portion.

Type 3: Personal Response/Personal Essay
   a. Personal Response: Students who select this option will interview a member of a faith (not their own), and they will write a personal response. This response must include some discussion of why a person would join this religion as well as some comparisons to the student's own worldview.
b. Personal Essay: Students who select this option will conduct research on a religion (including the reading of some sacred texts), attend some form of worship service at that religion, and will interview a member of that religion. Like the personal response, personal essays should focus on why a person would join this religion and they should likewise also include comparisons or some discussion of the student’s own worldview.

CLASSROOM AND GRADING POLICIES
* Computers will not be permitted in class, unless otherwise noted.

*All papers and assignments are due in physical form, unless otherwise noted, at the beginning of class. Emailed assignments are, in my class, late. All late assignments will be docked 1/3 of a grade for everyday they are late. In other words, an "A" paper 2 days late becomes a "B+." Saturday and Sunday count as only 1 day. If we do not have class on the day you want to hand in your late paper you may email it to me, but you also need to give me an identical physical copy in class. If you have a legitimate reason for not being able to complete an assignment on time, you must tell me before the assignment is due in order to avoid late penalties.

*All papers must be written in Times New Roman 12 font and have 1 inch margins. Failure to comply with this standard will lower your grade.

*I am certain that all of you can do very well in this course. Please remember that I do not give you a grade. You earn your grade. Simply "doing" the assignment will not guarantee a 100%. "A" means "Amazing," "Awesome," or "Almost as good as Alicia keys."1 "B" means "Good," which means you did a good job. Anything below that needs work.

*Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty in their college work. Forgery, cheating, and plagiarism are serious offenses and students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action. If you have questions about forgery, cheating, and/or plagiarism feel free to ask me or to visit http://www.macalester.edu/academicprograms/academicpolicies/academicintegrity/

SCHEDULE:
UNIT 1: BUDDHISM
WEEK 1 (SEP 1-7) Introductions
Wed, Sep 3 Introductions and Syllabus
Fri, Sep 5 What is Religion?
Readings:
WEEK 2 (SEP 8-14) Film Zen
Mon, Sep 8 Watching Zen
Wed, Sep 10 Watching Zen
Fri, Sep 12 Finish Zen with discussion
Readings:

1 I'm specifically referencing "If I Aint Got You" and "Empire State of Mind II" (the one without Jay-Z). I'd recommend either if you are in need of some inspiration.

WEEK 3 (SEP 15-21) Buddhisms in India
Mon, Sep 15 Buddhism and its origins
Readings:

Wed, Sep 17 Asoka
Readings:

Fri, Sep 19 Buddhist Split and Decline in India
Readings:
  - Foltz, 23-58.

WEEK 4 (SEP 22-28) East Asian Buddhisms
Mon, Sep 22 China
Readings:

Wed, Sep 24 Japan
Readings:
  - Foltz, 59-84.

Fri, Sep 26 Tibet
Readings:
  - Foltz, 85-141.

WEEK 5 (SEP 29-OCT 5) Buddhisms in Southeast Asia
Mon, Sep 29 Southeast Asia
Readings:

Due: Unit One Projects
Fri, Oct 3 Unit 1 Buddhism Exam

UNIT 2: CHRISTIANITY
WEEK 6 (OCT 6-12) Film *The Mission*
Mon, Oct 6 Watching *The Mission*
Wed, Oct 8 Watching *The Mission*
Fri, Oct 10 Finish *The Mission* with discussion
Readings:
  Jonathan Spence, *The Memory Palace of Matteo Ricci*, Chapter 1 "Building the Palace."

WEEK 7 (OCT 13-19) Christianity into Europe
Mon, Oct 13 Christ and Origins
Readings:
  Spence, "The First Image: The Warriors"
Wed, Oct 15 Constantine/Creeds/Schism
Readings:
  Spence, "The First Picture: The Apostle in the Waves"
Fri, Oct 17 Crusades/Religious Orders
Readings:
  Spence, "The Second Image: The Huihui"

WEEK 8 (OCT 20-26) Africa and Brazil
Mon, Oct 20 Kongo/Brazil
Readings:
  Spence, "The Second Picture: The Road to Emmaus"
Wed, Oct 22 Mid-Course Evaluation
Fri, Oct 24 OCTOBER BREAK! NO CLASS!

WEEK 9 (OCT 27-NOV 2) Americas and Asia
Mon, Oct 27 Mexico/Peru
Readings:
  Spence, "The Third Image: Profit and Harvest"
Wed, Oct 29 French Jesuits
Readings:
  Spence, "The Third Picture: The Men of Sodom"
Fri, Oct 31 Asia
Readings:
  Spence, "The Fourth Image: The Fourth Picture" and "Inside the Palace"

WEEK 10 (NOV 3-9) British Missions
Mon, Nov 3 British Missions
Wed, Nov 5 Presentations and Review
  **Due: Unit Two Projects**
Fri, Nov 7 Unit 2 Exam: Christianity

UNIT 3: ISLAM
WEEK 11 (NOV 10-16) *Puteri Gunung Ledang*
Mon, Nov 10 Watching *Puteri Gunung Ledang*
Wed, Nov 12 Continuing *Puteri Gunung Ledang*
Fri, Nov 14 Finish *Puteri Gunung Ledang* and Discussion
Readings:

WEEK 12 (NOV 17-23)
Mon, Nov 17 Muhammad to Split
Readings:
Tagliacozzo, 41-62.
Wed, Nov 19 Middle Eastern Medieval Islam
Readings:
  Tagliacozzo, 63-82.
Fri, Nov 21 Rise of the Ottomans/Safavids
  Tagliacozzo, 83-108.
WEEK 13 (NOV 24-30)
Mon, Nov 24 Islam from North Africa to Spain
  Readings:
    Tagliacozzo, 109-132
Wed, Nov 26/Fri, Nov 28 - THANKSGIVING BREAK! NO CLASS!
WEEK 14 (DEC 1-7) (North African Islam)
Mon, Dec 1 West African Islam
  Readings:
    Tagliacozzo, 133-156
Wed, Dec 3 East African
  Readings:
    Tagliacozzo, 157-176
Fri, Dec 5 Islam in India
  Readings:
    Tagliacozzo, 177-202
WEEK 15 (DEC 8-14)
Mon, Dec 8 Islam in Southeast Asia
Wed, Dec 10 Presentations and Course Evaluations
  **Due: Unit Three Projects**
WEEK 16 (FINAL)
Exam #3 on Islam