

Course number		U-LAS01 10013 LE38					
Course title (and course title in English)		Introduction to World Religions-E2 Introduction to World Religions-E2		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation		Center for Southeast Asian Studies Associate Professor,Julius Bautista	
Group	Humanities and Social Sciences		Field(Classification)		History and Civilization(Foundations)		
Language of instruction	English		Old group	Group A		Number of credits	2
Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Lecture (Face-to-face course)		Year/semesters	2025 • First semester	
Days and periods	Tue.2		Target year	Mainly 1st & 2nd year students		Eligible students	For liberal arts students
[Overview and purpose of the course]							
This course offers an introduction to major religions of the world, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Eastern Religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. What is interesting about the origin and historical development of each religious tradition? What are their sacred texts, philosophical ideas and common values? What kinds of rituals are performed by the members of each faith? The purpose of this course is to answer these questions in a way that compares various World Religions, especially in light of the global forces that have shaped them.							
[Course objectives]							
This course has two main learning outcomes: The first (1) is the ability to offer a comparative analysis of the origin and historical development of each of the world ' s major religions, drawing from basic understanding sacred texts, philosophical ideas and patterns of ritual worship. Secondly, (2) students will have the ability to comment on how religion impacts upon a wide range of social, political and cultural issues that affects modern society around the globe.							
[Course schedule and contents)]							
Week 1 Introduction and Course Queries Week 2 Monotheism: The Founding Narratives Week 3 The Judeo-Christian Tradition Week 4 Jesus Christ and Christianity Week 5 The Prophet of Islam Week 6 Islam and the Submission to God Week 7 The Vedic Tradition: The Foundational Narratives Week 8 Hinduism in Traditional and Contemporary Society Week 9 Buddhism: The Path Towards Enlightenment Week 10 The Buddha and His Dharma Week 11 East Asian Religious Traditions 1 Week 12 East Asian Religious Traditions 2 Week 13 Conclusion and Recap Week 14 Reading Week Week 15 Examination Week 16 Feedback Week							
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[Course requirements]

None

[Evaluation methods and policy]

Students will be evaluated according to three main criteria:

- (1) Class attendance and participation in in-class and online discussion (30%)
- (2) A written essay of up to 3000 words (35%)
- (3) At least two structured group discussions (35%)

[Textbooks]

Warren Matthews 『World Religions (7th Edition)』 ISBN:1111834725

[References, etc.]

(References, etc.)

Introduced during class

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

No prior knowledge of religion is required. Students should be able to participate in discussions with their classmates in English. This may be face-to-face small group discussion or online. Students may also be asked to make short presentations in English based on the class topics.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Consultation is by appointment via email to bautista@cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp

[Essential courses]