

Fall 2009
Religious Studies 120 – World Religions
Online Course Information

(for students in online sections of this course)

Please read all of the following information so that you can decide whether this course and its requirements will be suitable for you.

Here follows some general information about the **online** version of the Mythology course. **More detailed information will be made available in the course syllabus**, which will be posted on this course's Blackboard site and also on Mr. McGraw's web page. Also, **if you are unsure what an online course requires**, you can find additional information about that at www.gcccd.net/online/faq.htm.

Important! Please be aware that . . .

If you wish to contact your instructor before the course starts up, . . . Please know that Mr. McGraw will be away from Cuyamaca College until **August 24, 2009**. While away, he will be checking his e-mail messages only occasionally--so, please be patient if you send him a question that needs a response. In the meantime, you can find **answers to the most typical questions about the course** right here on this web page.

- **Access to the Blackboard site** begins on **Monday, 8/24/2009**, and ends with the final exam. Earlier site access before the beginning of the semester will **not** be possible (so please do not e-mail the instructor to request earlier access).
- **You should not enroll in this online course unless you are able to come in person to the campus for three required Saturday exams.** The exam dates may be found in the listing for this course in the Cuyamaca College class schedule. Students will be asked to show a valid (current) Cuyamaca College **Student Picture-ID Card** (or other valid government-issued identification card) for admission to the exam. A Student Picture ID Card is available free to every Cuyamaca College student, and can be obtained at the Student Services Center, Room Z-203, next to counseling (Phone: 619-660-4358).
- **You will occasionally need to find time to come to the campus Learning Resources Center** (library) to view some videos related to the course material. (More information on this is given below, at "Required Viewing".)
- **Some assignments will already be due by Friday of the first week of the course.** Instructions on where to find assignment information can be read in the blackboard site itself on the announcement's page, the first page you will encounter when you enter the site.

Textbooks, etc.

Required Texts:

- Smith, Huston The World's Religions (HarperSanFrancisco), 1991.

Required Viewing (Videos):

- Wisdom of Faith (video series with Bill Moyers and Huston Smith). **We will only watch a couple of them.**

Because copies of these videos are available on campus in the Learning Resources Center (library), you will not need to buy them, but you will need to come onto campus to view them. However, if you prefer to have your own copy, you can purchase them online by clicking on the link next to the video titles above. You may also find copies of these videos in local libraries.

What You Will Be Doing in This Online Course

The amount of work in this online course is designed to be comparable to the amount of work in a standard "face-to-face" class (for semester-length classes, 3 hours of "class time" plus 6 hours of "home study" per week are normative). If you are unsure what an online course requires, you can find additional information about that at www.gccd.net/online/faq.htm. The following list will give you an idea of the typical assignments and activities you will undertake this semester:

- **Online Tasks & Assignments:**
 - Online discussions of course concepts
 - Reading or listening to online explanations by the instructor
 - Online worksheets and exercises
 - Online quizzes (open-book, but without assistance from others)
- **Other Assignments:**
 - Reading assignments from course textbooks
 - Viewing of assigned videos on campus in the Learning Resources Center (library)
- **On-Campus Exams** (required; no exceptions):
 - Three scheduled Saturday exams (closed-book)

To get started in the course,
please follow the instructions at: [Course Startup Instructions](#)