Dr. Linda Holler  
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lholler@mail.sdsu.edu  
Office Hours: TTH 12:30-2:00 and by appointment.

Required Texts:  
John Niehardt, Black Elk Speaks  
Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha  
Elie Wiesel, Night  
Michael Molloy, Experiencing the World's Religions

Texts are available at KB Books on College Avenue. While there, buy one #288-ERI Parscore Student Enrollment Sheet, five #289-ERI Parscore Test Forms—these are the RED scantrons—a #2 pencil, if you're without one, and 3 blue books.

Course Objectives:

Religious studies 101 is an introduction to the world's major religious traditions. The objective is not to seek out any one "true" religion, nor is it to make confessions of faith. Instead, our goal is to enter into diverse religious philosophies so as to see how each understands the nature, meaning and struggle of human existence.

Course Requirements:

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<th>Quiz #1</th>
<th>9/12</th>
<th>Black Elk (Scantron #288-ERI)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>Part I and II (Blue Book and scantron #289-ERI)</td>
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<td>Quiz #2</td>
<td>10/17</td>
<td>Siddhartha (Scantron #289-ERI)</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>Part III &amp; IV (Blue Book &amp; scantron #289-ERI)</td>
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<td>Quiz #3</td>
<td>11/14</td>
<td>Night (Scantron #289-ERI)</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>12/12</td>
<td>Part V, VI, &amp; VII (Blue Book &amp; scantron #289-ERI)</td>
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Your final course grade will be composed of 3 major exams worth 100 points each and 3 quizzes worth a total of 60 points. I will determine your grade as a percentage achieved. For example, a total of 290 divided by 360 = 81% (or B-).

Exams must be taken at the times scheduled unless I am notified prior to the exam. Quizzes cannot be made-up under any circumstance including coming in late or bringing an incorrect scantron. Scantrons other than those identified on this syllabus will not be graded and any failure to fill them out properly will result in an automatic deduction for each error.

Exams and quizzes use matching, True/False, fill in the blank, and multiple choice to test your ability to identify, define, and describe basic concepts, sacred texts, religious teachings and history. Essays give you an opportunity to respond with more depth, creativity and concrete detail. Study questions for readings and exams will be provided.
III. Buddhism: Suffering and Release

10/5  Relationship to Hinduism/Life of the Buddha/Core Teachings
READ: Molloy, Chapter Four, pp. 101-115 and Siddhartha (You need to complete Hesse's novel by 10/19.)

10/10 Core Teachings/Movie: "Footprint of the Buddha" (TV6327V)
READ: Molloy, Chapter Four, pp. 115-138.

10/12 Divisions within Buddhism--Theravada, Mahayana and Zen
READ: Molloy, Chapter Four, pp. 138-161.

10/17 Quiz on Siddhartha (20 pts), (Scantron #289-ERI)
Discussion of Siddhartha/Review of Buddhism

IV. Chinese Religion--Taoism and Confucianism

10/19 Chinese Religion/ Taoism
READ: Molloy, Chapter Six, pp. 187-206.

10/24 Confucianism/Review
READ: Molloy, Chapter Six, pp. 206-233.

10/26 MIDTERM EXAM (Blue Book and scantron #289-ERI)

V. Judaism: Religion of the Covenant

10/31 History of the Covenant--Patriarchs, Exodus, Sinai
READ: Molloy, Chapter Eight, pp. 263-278 and Night (You need to complete Wiesel's text by 11/14.)

11/2 History of the Covenant--Monarchy, Babylonia, Rome
READ: Molloy, Chapter Eight, pp. 279-286.

11/7 Rabbinic Judaism: Tradition and Piety/Movie: "The Chosen"
READ: Molloy, Chapter Eight, pp. 286-292 and 298-305.