



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies**

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**RELI 103**

**PATHS TO ENLIGHTENMENT: Introducing Asian Religions**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2016**

### **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 11 July to 13 November 2016

**Teaching dates:** 11 July to 16 October 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 22 August to 4 September 2016

**Study period:** 17–20 October 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### **Class times and locations**

Lectures: Wednesdays 12:00-13:50. All lectures are in Maclaurin LT 102

Tutorials: TBA; students should enrol in tutorials through myAllocator.

### **Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator:

Dr Michael Radich [michael.radich@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:michael.radich@vuw.ac.nz)

Office :KP 14 / 207

You can meet with Dr Radich by appointment.

Tutors: TBA

## Communication of additional information

Religious Studies is located at 14 Kelburn Parade. The programme administrator, Aliki Kalliabetsos, is in room 203 (463 5299), [aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:aliki.kalliabetsos@vuw.ac.nz). Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the notice board outside her office. Notices will also be communicated to students via emails sent from Blackboard. Students who do not use their assigned student.vuw.ac.nz email addresses should ensure that ITS has an up-to-date email address, and that they check this address regularly.

## Prescription

This course focuses on current beliefs, practices and forms of religions of India, China, Tibet and Japan. The course examines basic doctrines of Buddhism (such as suffering); renunciation; pilgrimage; lamas; and Chinese spirituality.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate factual knowledge about historical and contemporary forms of religious practice in South and East Asia;
2. Demonstrate an awareness of key conceptual issues involved in the study of Asia religions, and critically engage with those issues;
3. Demonstrate an awareness of key conceptual issues in the study of religion as a critical discipline;
4. Demonstrate, to an appropriate level: mastery of reading, research and writing skills; ability to make and defend arguments, and critical awareness.

## Teaching format

This course is designed as an integral combination of lectures, readings, tutorials, and assigned work. These components are complementary with one another, not redundant; and ALL components of the course are necessary for students to do well. It is thus recommended in the strongest possible terms that students do the reading, attend all lectures and tutorials, and keep up with the required work for the course. The Lecture Schedule, tutorial timetable, and details relating to assessments will be distributed in separate handouts via BlackBoard.

**Tutorials** focus on improving basic study skills, and discussions which complement the lecture programme and deepen students' understanding. They provide an opportunity to discuss aspects of the course in a small group and develop the ability to contribute to discussions. This is an vital part of the apparatus the course uses to develop students' skills in critical thinking and communication.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials.

Rationale: Tutorial groups only function properly when all members attend consistently and develop a community of learning, and hence attendance is mandatory. In addition, skills exercises and content discussion in tutorials are an important means for developing core competencies.

Should students be concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet tutorial attendance requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, they should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## Workload

For 20 point courses, a student should spend on average 13 hours per week for preparation, reading and writing in addition to attendance at lectures and tutorials. The total workload for the course, including class time should be approximately 200 hours.

## Assessment

RELI 103 Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	1 essay of 1,500 words (recommended average time spent on this task: 40 hours)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	Sept 30 2016
2	2 review assignments of 800-1,000 words (recommended average time spent on this task: 30 hours)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	Aug 5 2016 Aug 19 2016
3	3 reading response assignments (350-500 words) (recommended average time spent on this task, including reading: 20 hours)	15%	1, 2, 3, 4	July 27 2016 Aug 10 2016 Sept 14 2016
4	4 reading quizzes (recommended average time spent on this task: 20 hours including reading)	10%	1, 4	July 20 2016 Aug 3 2016 Sept 7 2016 Sept 21 2016
4	1 in-class test (recommended average time spent on this task: 90 hours, including mandatory readings and classtime throughout the trimester)	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	Oct 12 2016

## Submission and return of work

Essays are to be submitted to the **assignment box** outside the Religious Studies office (KP 14 / 203). Please make sure you sign the sheet to document that you submitted your assignment, and when. Essays are **also** to be **submitted electronically, via Blackboard**, in part so that student work can be checked for plagiarism via TurnItIn. **DO NOT EMAIL YOUR ESSAYS TO THE LECTURER OR TUTOR. No responsibility will be taken for assignments for which there is no record.** Students should keep a copy of all their work until it is returned. Marked assignments may be collected from the Religious Studies office 2 weeks from the date of submission.

## Extensions and penalties

### Extensions

If a student requires an extension for any serious or medical reason they must apply for one as soon as practicably possible, and if possible, before the due date of the assessment in question.

### Penalties

- 2 per cent per 24 hours will be deducted for late essays (including Saturdays and Sundays).
- Essays submitted late due to medical reasons must be given to the programme administrator accompanied by a doctor's certificate.
- Late reading assignments and quizzes will have 30% deducted immediately. ~~Late assignments must still be submitted in order to complete the course (see "Mandatory course requirements").~~

## Set texts

There is no set textbook. Readings will be made available via TALIS Aspire, and links will be provided on BlackBoard.

## Recommended reading

Please see the Lecture Outline for a full reading list for this course.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

## Student feedback

All student feedback from course evaluations is considered, improvements are regularly made on that basis. Students responded positively to course content and delivery.

This course will be evaluated by CAD.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)