

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

**NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**

PROGRAM AREA           **HISTORY**          

**1. Catalog Description of the Course.** *[Include the course prefix, number, full title, and units. Provide a course narrative including prerequisites and corequisites. If any of the following apply, include in the description: Repeatability (May be repeated to a maximum of \_\_\_ units); time distribution (Lecture \_\_\_ hours, laboratory \_\_\_ hours); non-traditional grading system (Graded CR/NC, ABC/NC). Follow accepted catalog format.]*

HIST 413 WORLD RELIGIONS AND CLASSICAL PHILOSOPHIES (3)

Three hours lecture per week

Prerequisite: ENGL 330.

This course studies and compares some major religions and philosophical schools in the ancient world. It examines how different societies and peoples have formed their basic assumptions concerning the universe, faith, human nature and society, and how those fundamental assumptions have affected their chosen modes of thinking, ways of life, organizations of society, forms of government, and approaches to knowledge.

GenEd: D

**2. Mode of Instruction.**

	<b>Units</b>	<b>Hours per Unit</b>	<b>Benchmark Enrollment</b>
Lecture	___3.0___	___1___	___25___
Seminar	_____	_____	_____
Laboratory	_____	_____	_____
Activity	_____	_____	_____

**3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course.** (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) *[Use as much space as necessary]*  
 Fulfills the thematic or world/Pacific Rim category of the History major.

A critical analysis of the major religions and some of the most influential schools of philosophies in history is one of the most effective ways to understand society and world civilization. This course provides such an opportunity by helping participants gain an interdisciplinary understanding not only from a close examination of different religions and philosophies in individual societies but also from a careful comparison of them.

Learning objectives:

Students who successfully pass this course will be able to:

- describe the emergences of some of the major religions and philosophical schools in world history.
- write analyses of the roles and functions those religions and philosophies played in shaping history and society.
- develop explanations that compare basic characteristics of different religions and philosophies.

**4. Is this a General Education Course**                       **YES**                       **NO**

If Yes, indicate GE category:

<b>A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)</b>	
<b>B (Mathematics &amp; Sciences)</b>	
<b>C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages &amp; Cultures)</b>	
<b>D (Social Perspectives)</b>	√
<b>E (Human Psychological and Physiological Perspectives)</b>	

**5. Course Content in Outline Form.** *[Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary]*

1: Socrates and the search for truth

- 2: Plato and his Republic
- 3: Aristotle and the search for knowledge
- 2: Judaism and early Christianity: spirituality and philosophy
- 3: Confucius and Confucianism
- 5: The secular religion and filial piety in China
- 6: Islam: There is no god but God
- 7: The Koran
- 8: Hinduism: 330 million gods
- 9: Hinduism: the wheel of life and the religion of the wheel
- 10: Theology and philosophy under institutionalized Christianity: St. Augustine
- 11: Theology and philosophy under institutionalized Christianity: St. Aquinas
- 12: The Arabs and the Europeans: Al-Farabi and Avicenna
- 13: Buddhism: from India to Asia
- 14: Neo-Confucianism: the search for synthesis
- 15: World religions and classical philosophies: a comparison

**6. References.** *[Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.]*

Richard H. Popkin, ed., *The Columbia History of Western Philosophy* (Columbia University Press, 1999).  
 Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Charles A. Moore, eds., *A Source Book in Indian Philosophy* (1957; Princeton University Press, 1989).  
 Wing-Tsit Chan, ed., *A Source Book in Chinese Philosophy* (Princeton University Press, 1963).  
 Abdullah Yusuf Ali, *The Holy Qur'an* (10<sup>th</sup> ed.; Amana Publications, 2001).  
 David C. Lindberg, *The Beginnings of Western Science: The European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, 600 B.C. to A.D. 1450* (Chicago University Press, 1992).

**7. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.**

History staff.

**8. Frequency.**

a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall   X   Spring        Summer       

**9. New Resources Required. NONE**

- a. Computer (data processing), audio visual, broadcasting needs, other equipment
- b. Library needs
- c. Facility/space needs

**10. Consultation.**

Attach consultation sheet from all program areas, Library, and others (if necessary)

**11. If this new course will alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program, attach a program modification.**

Frank Barajas and Rainer Buschmann 11-25-02

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Proposer of Course

Date